

# **Migration and Behavior of White Sharks in the North Eastern Pacific**

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**Anderson, S**

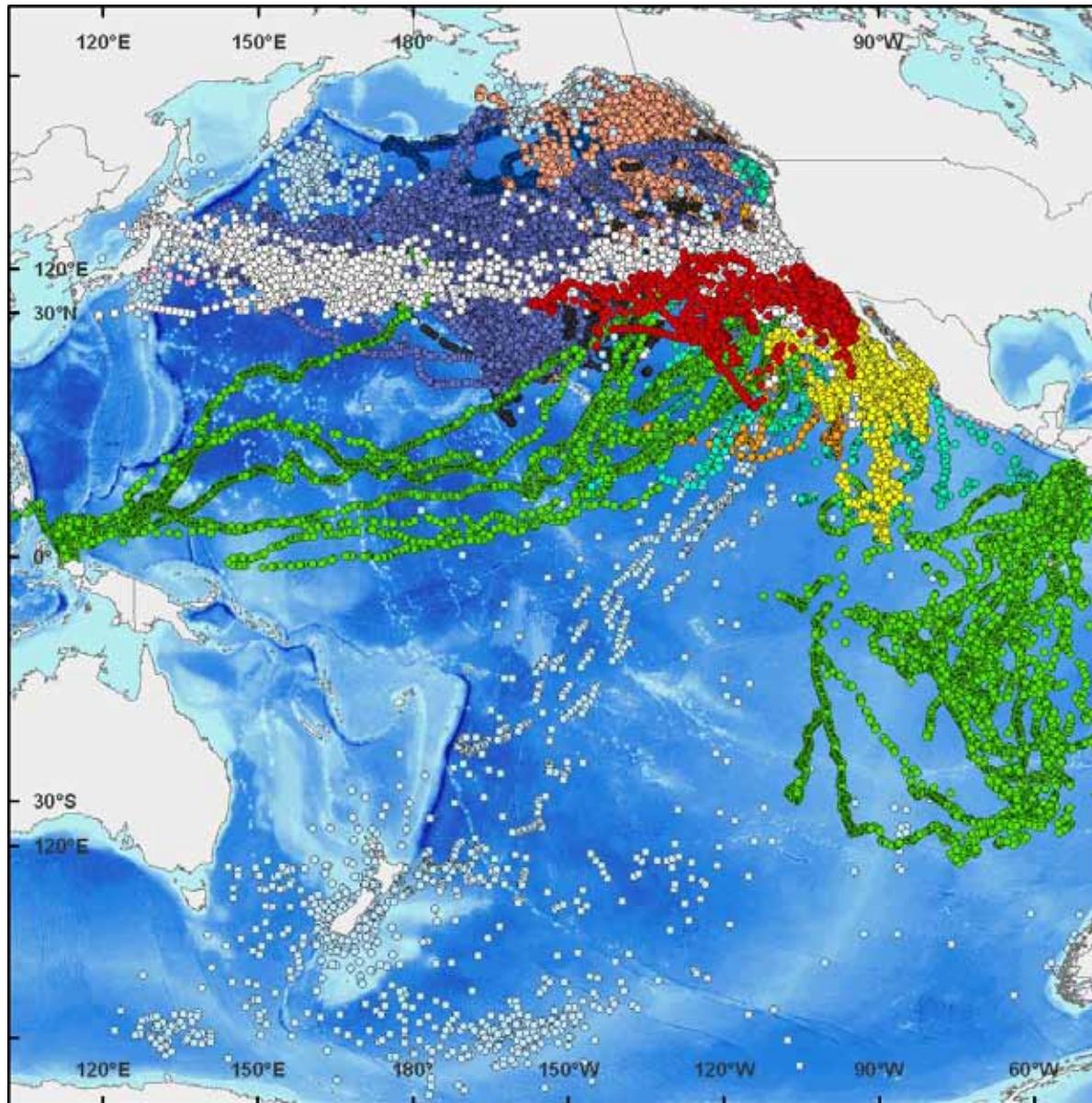
**Perle, C**

**Klimley, AP**

**Block, BA**



# Tagging of Pacific Pelagics TOPP



- Black-footed Albatross
- Blue Whale
- California Sea Lion
- Humpback Whale
- Laysan Albatross
- Northern Elephant Seal
- Sooty Shearwater
- Albacore
- Blue Shark
- Humboldt Squid
- Leatherback Turtle
- Loggerhead Turtle
- Mako Shark
- Mola
- Pacific Bluefin
- Salmon Shark
- Thresher Shark
- White Shark
- Yellowfin Tuna

# White sharks

1. White shark conservation status:

- IUCN - 'vulnerable'
- CITES - 'appendix II'

2. Regularly migrate 1000s of km (Pelagic)

3. Consistently return to local neighborhoods  
(Coastal)

4. Isolated population in the Eastern Pacific

# Overview

- Approach
  - 1. Tagging
    - » Satellite tagging
    - » Acoustic tagging
    - » Visual mark/recapture
  - 2. Genetics
- Results
  - 1. Migration and site fidelity
  - 2. Why migrate?
  - 3. Genetic structure
- Conservation Implications

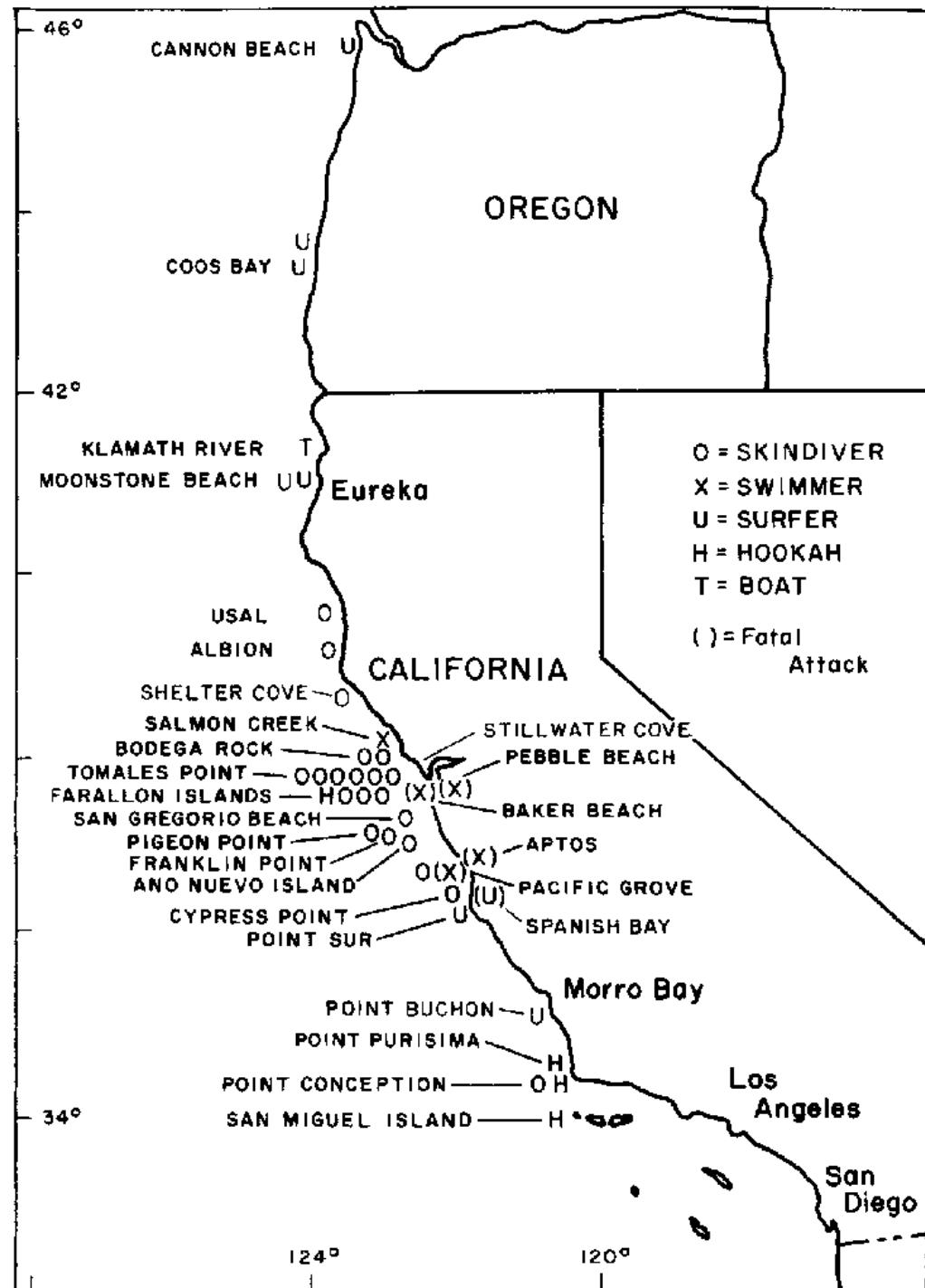
# Early data on white sharks

- Length at Birth 1.2 – 1.5 m (4ft) - Francis 1996
- Maximum length 6.4 m (21ft) - Ebert 2003
- Maximum age ~ 27 years - Cailliet 1985
- Reproductive age 9-10 years - Cailliet 1985
- Litter size 3 – 14 - Francis 1996

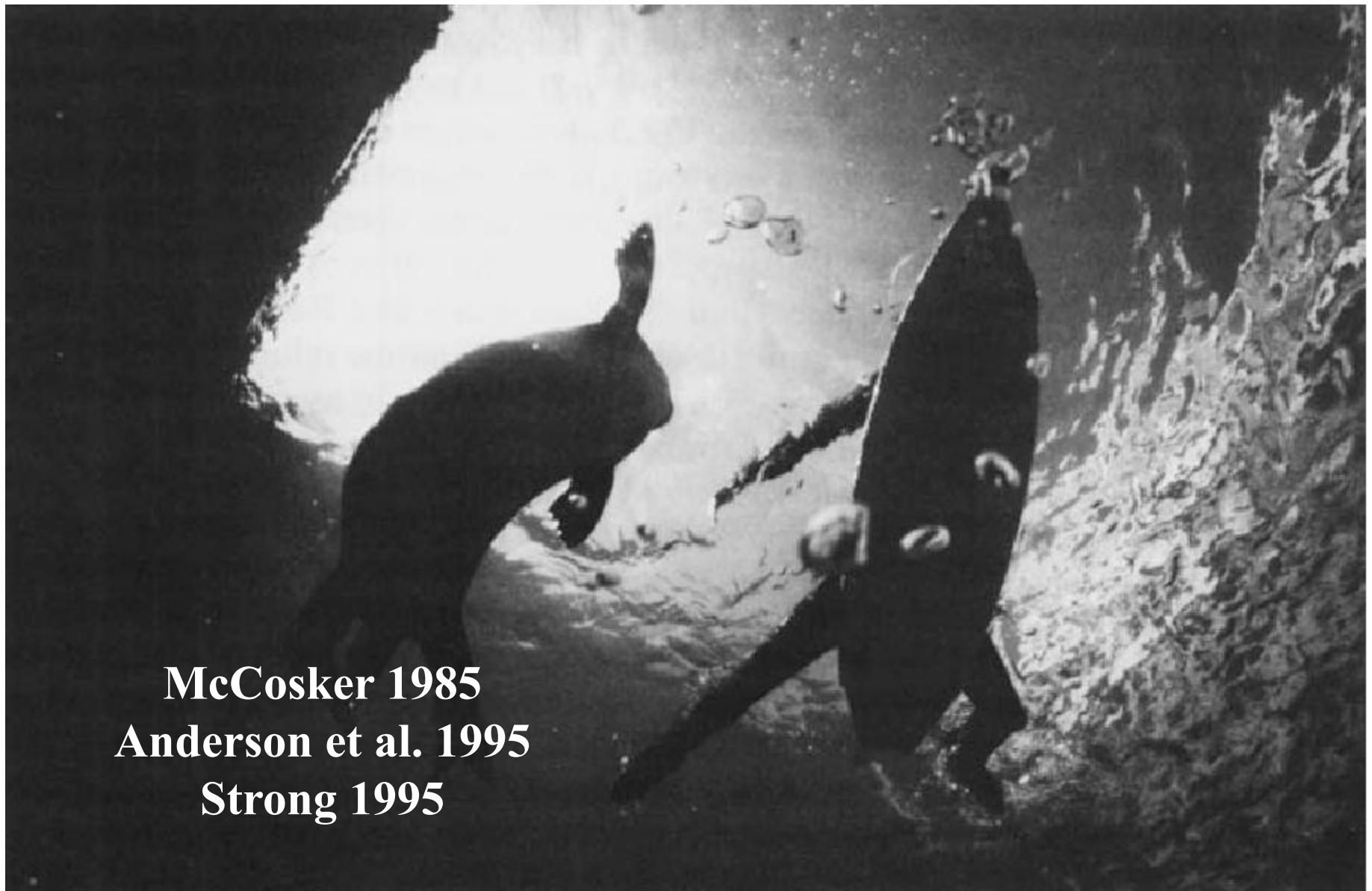


# White shark attacks mapped

- Klimley 1985



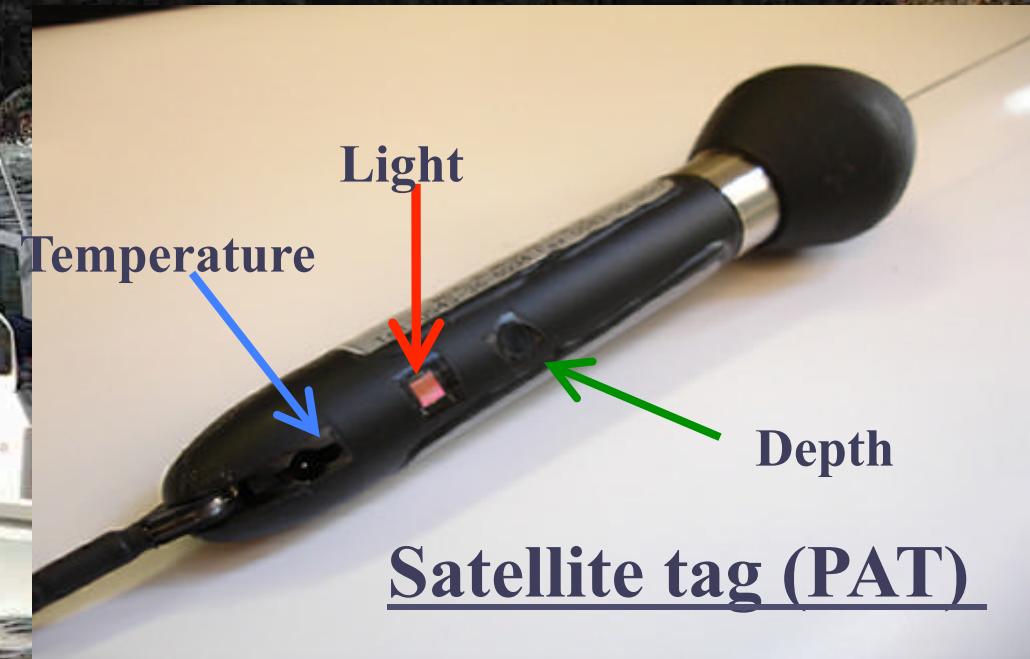
# White sharks - visual predators



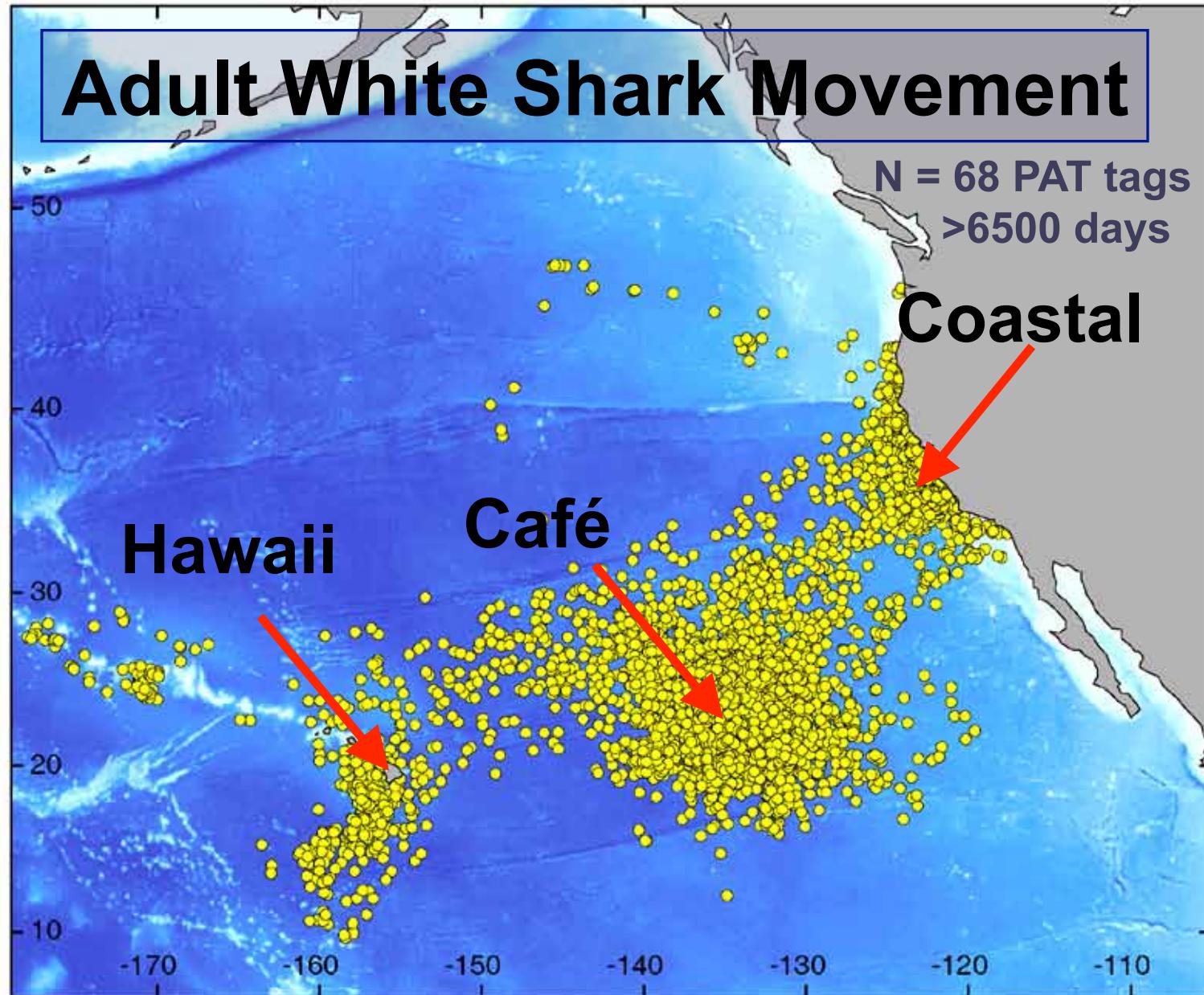
**McCosker 1985  
Anderson et al. 1995  
Strong 1995**

# Tagging

Seal decoy

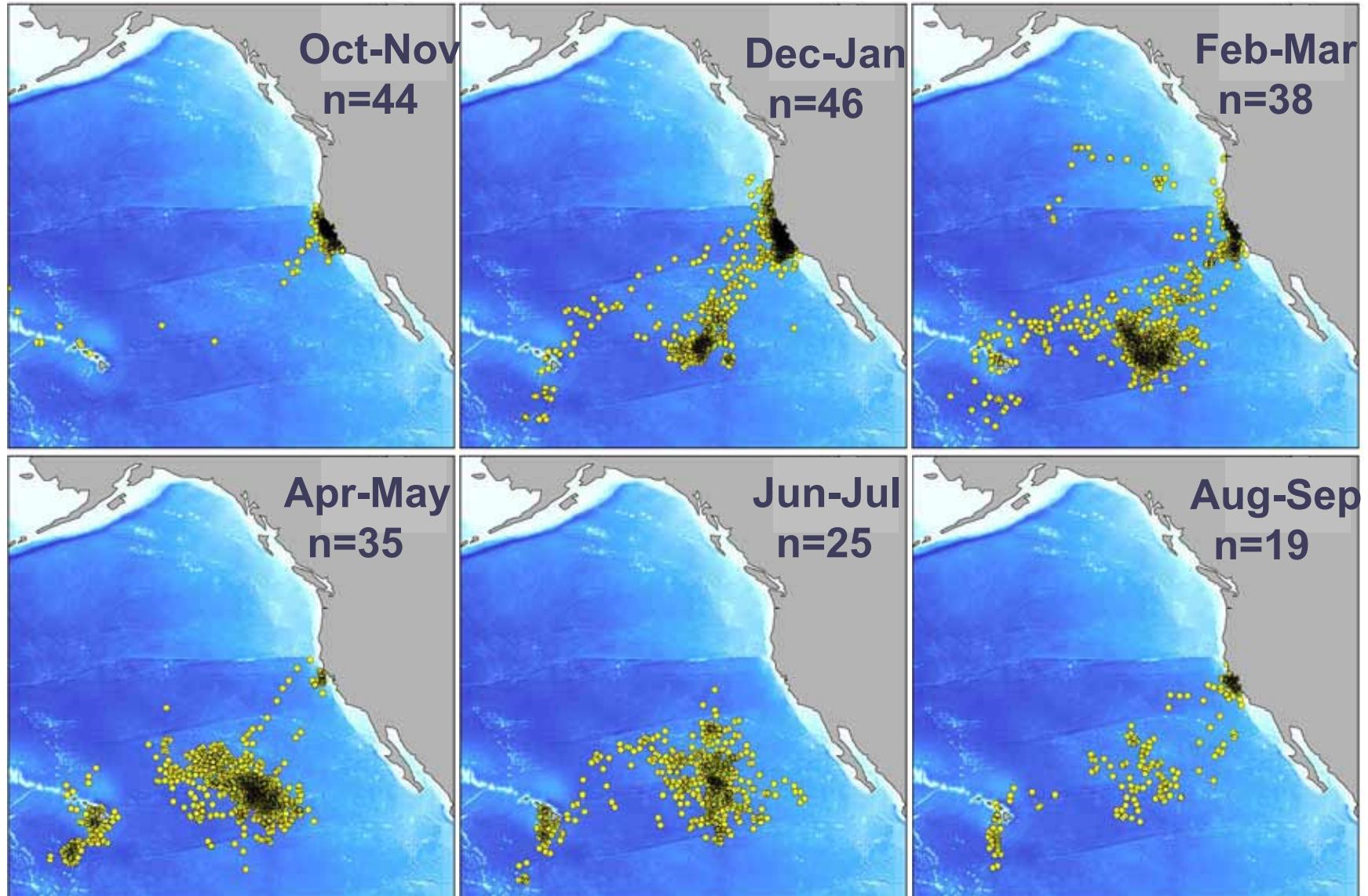


# Adult White Shark Movement

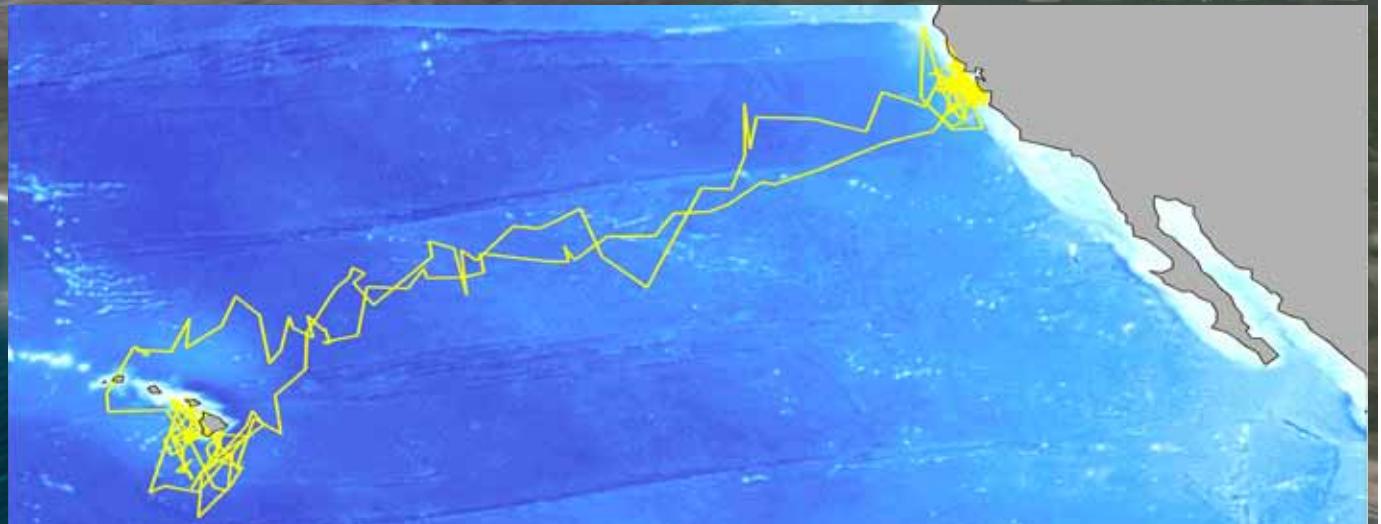


Jorgensen et al. *Proceedings of the Royal Society*. 2010;  
Boustany et al 2002; Weng et al 2006

# Seasonal Adult White Shark Migrations



# White Shark Site fidelity



TAGGED Dec 15, 05  
POP-UP Oct 11, 06

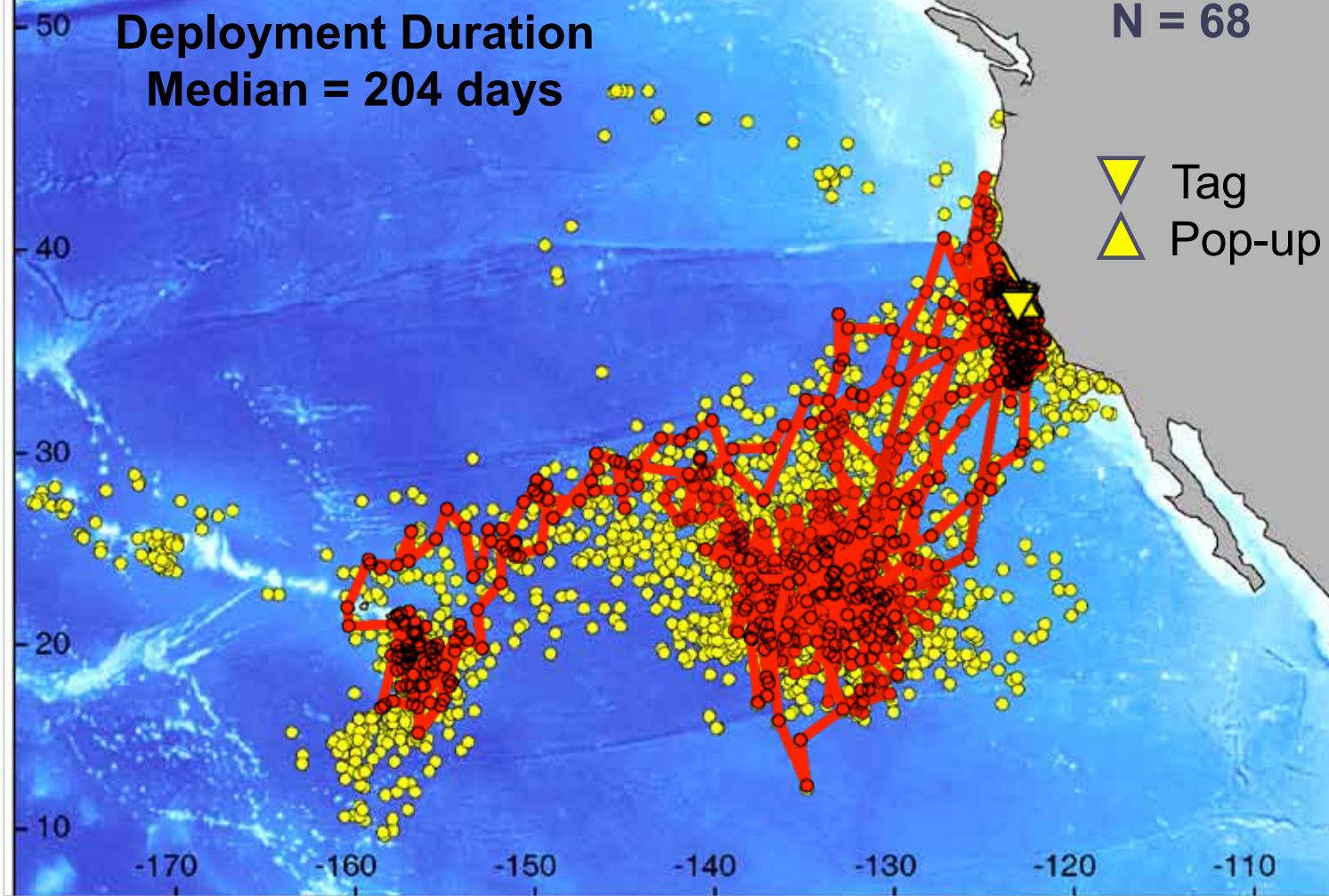
Ano Nuevo Island



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Image NASA  
Image © 2007 TerraMetrics

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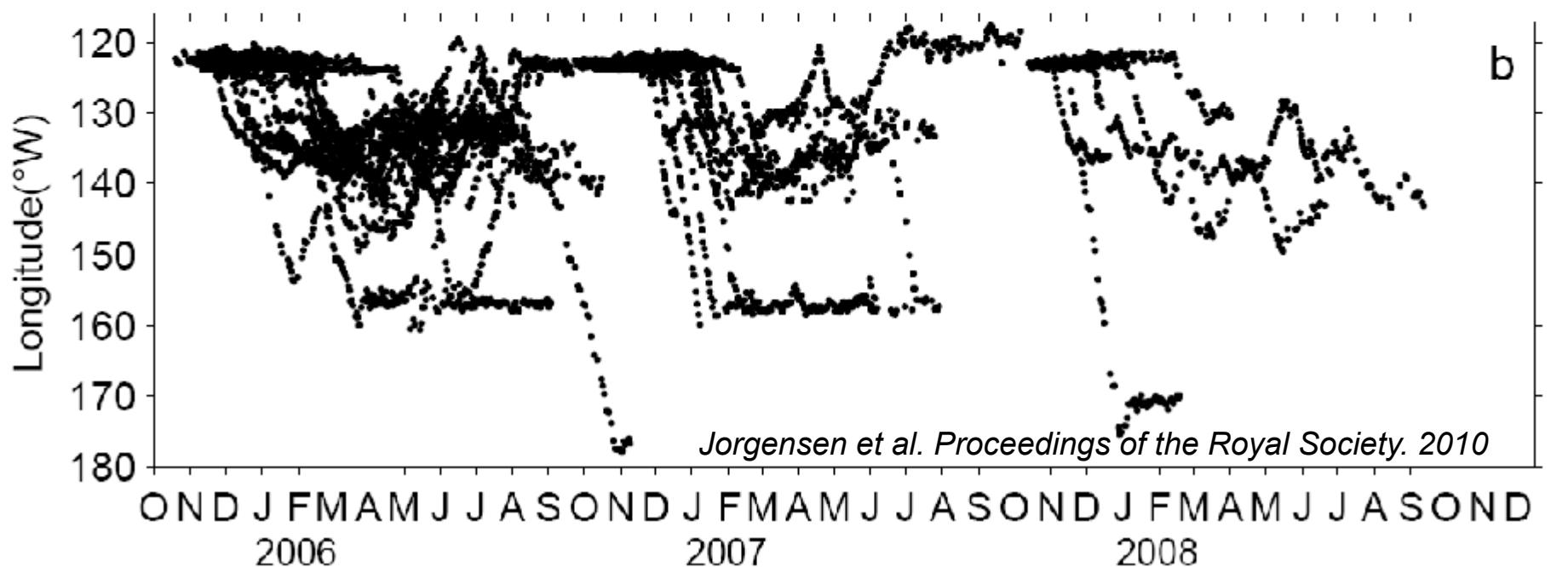
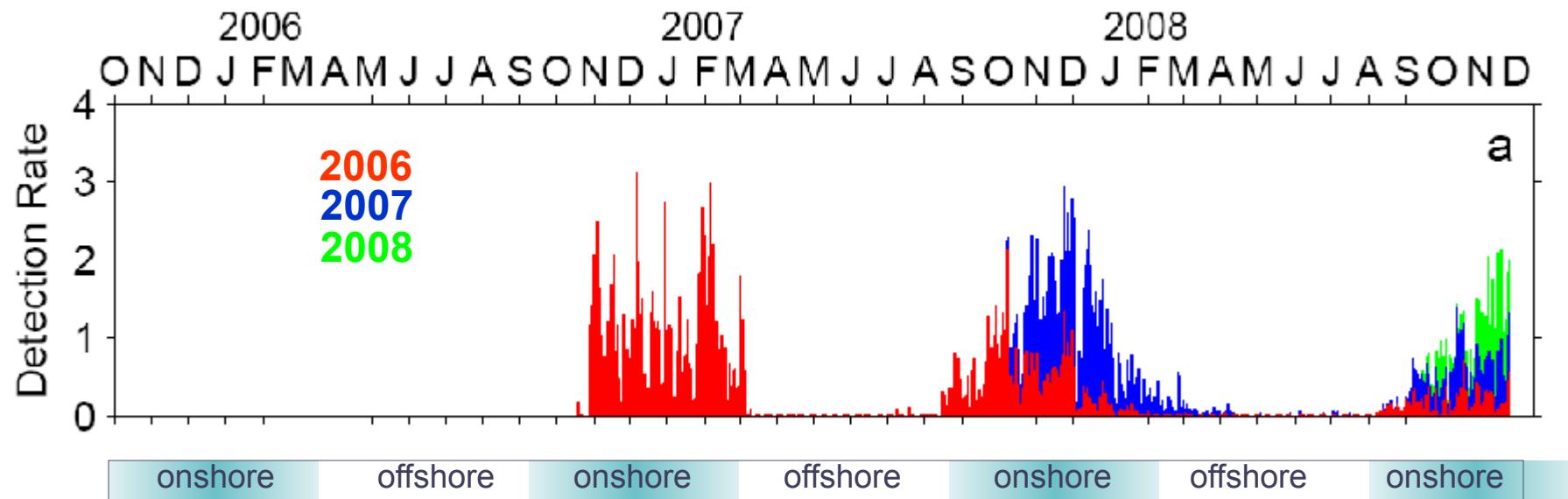
# Adult White Shark Movement

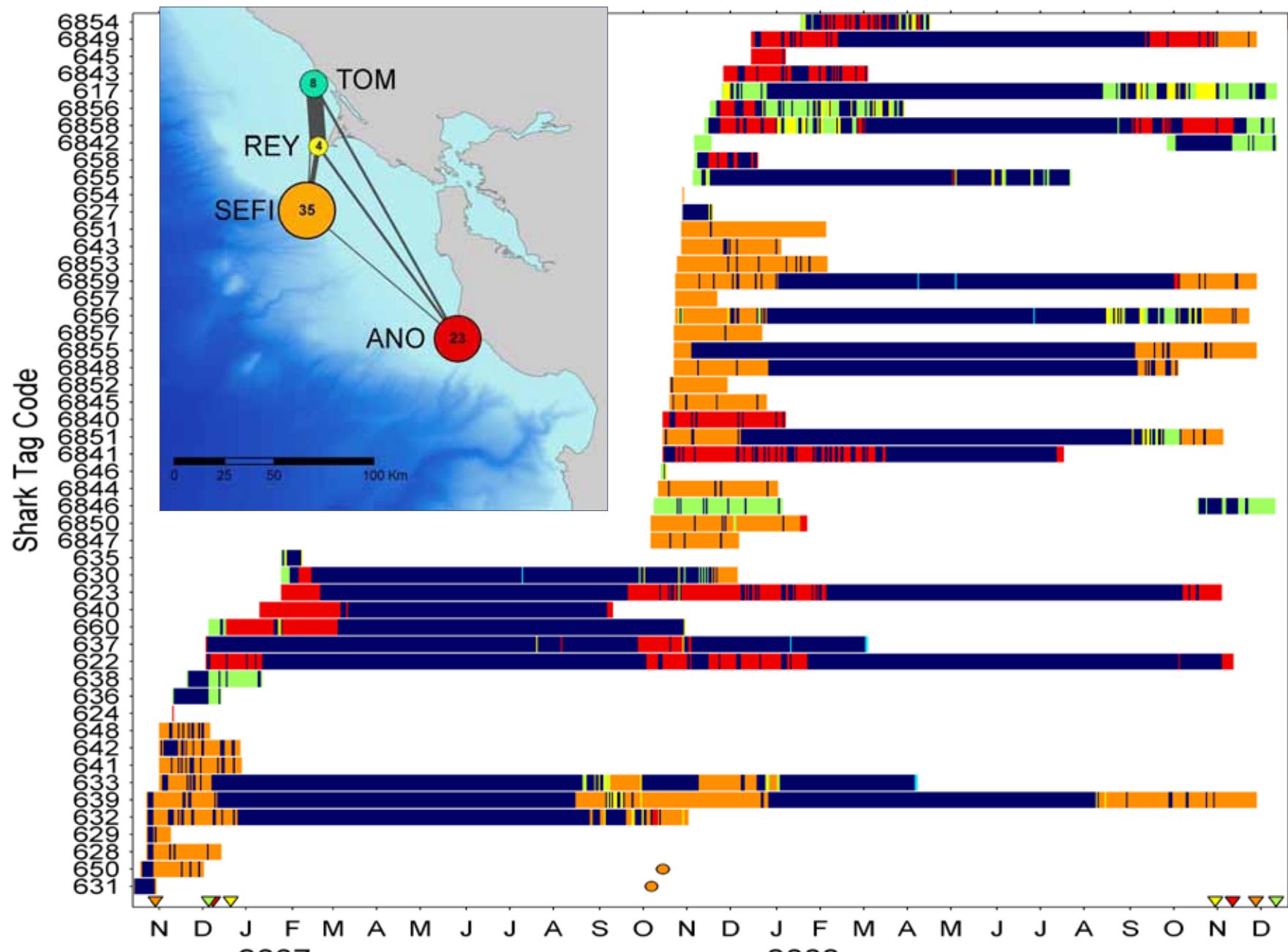


Jorgensen et al. *Proceedings of the Royal Society*. 2010

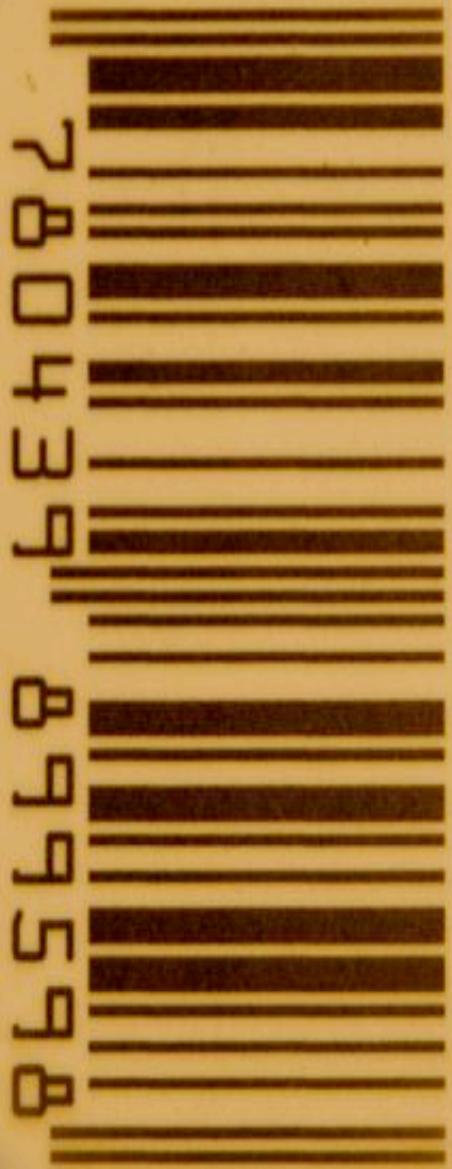
# Acoustic Tags and Receivers







# Individual ID



# Historical Fin Matches

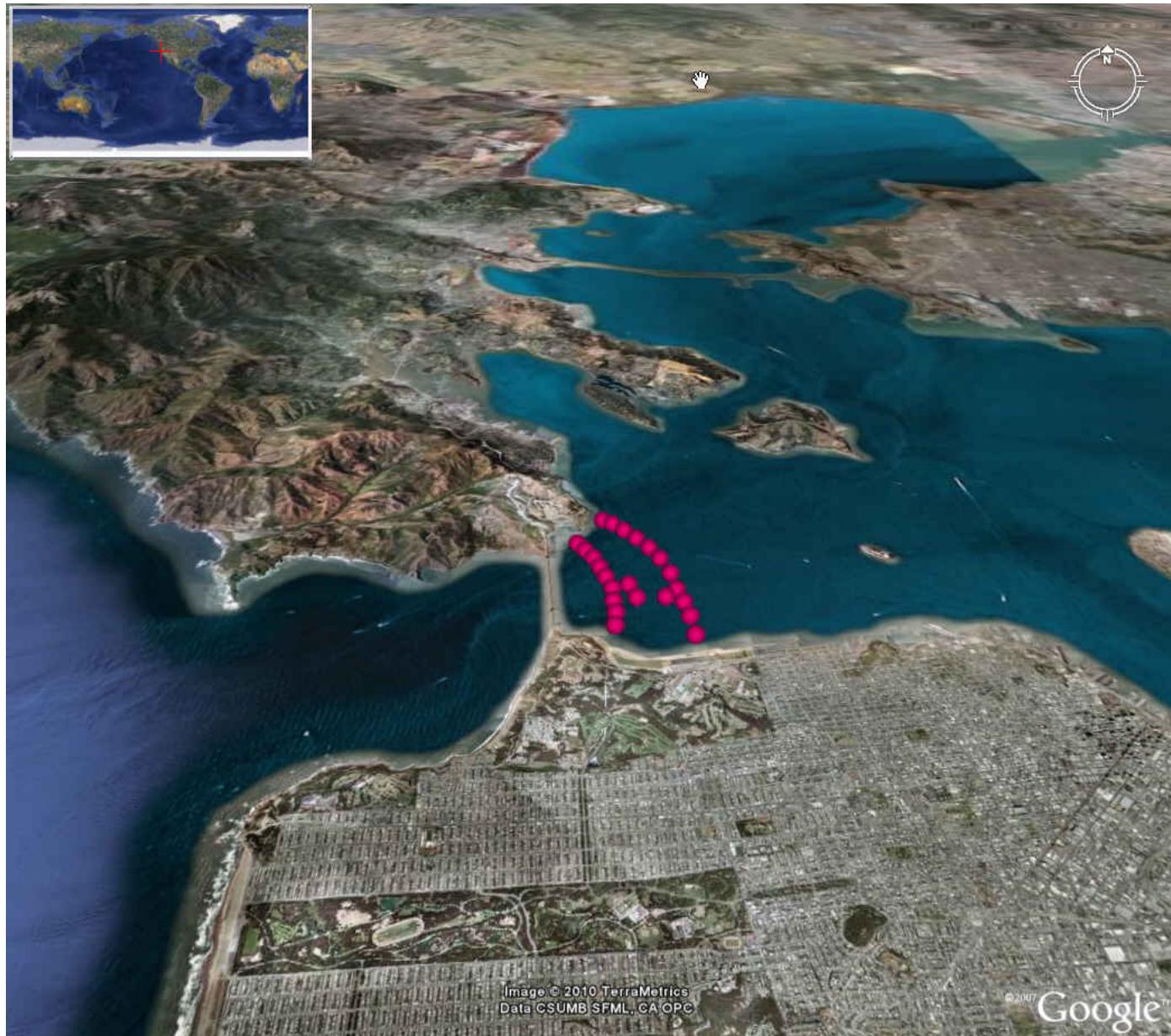
1993

2008

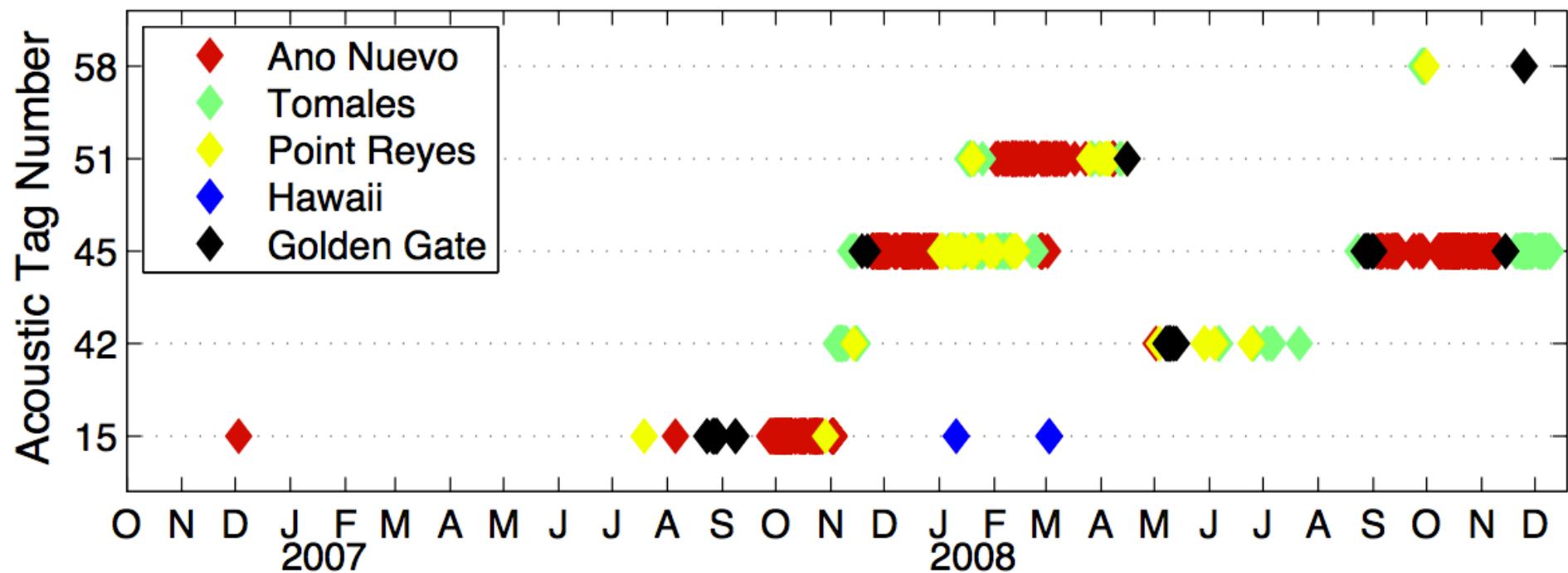
16 years later

50% of re-sights > 6 years ; Longest = 23 years

# Acoustic receivers in San Francisco Bay



# Five white sharks detected in San Francisco Bay



*Jorgensen et al. Proceedings of the Royal Society. 2010*

# White Sharks at the Golden Gate



Photoshop & Internet (2003)



Mega Shark v. Giant Octopus (2009)

# San Jose Mercury News



Tags send data to satellites and listening devices placed off the California coast.

## Great white shark facts

Carcharodon carcharias

Length: Average is 15 feet; can grow to more than 20 feet.

Weight: Up to 5,000 pounds

Life span: 20 years or more

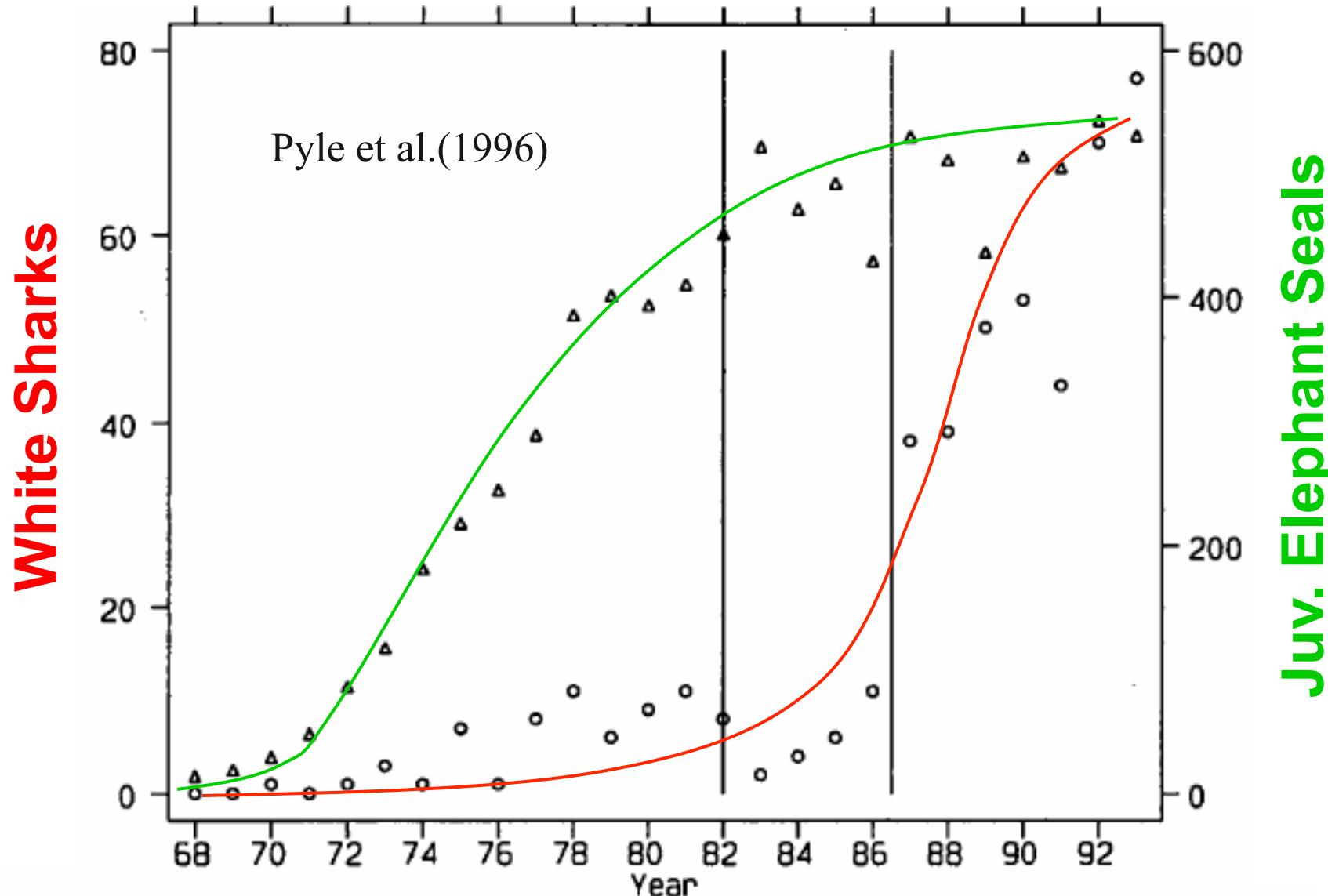
Speed: Up to 25 mph for short distances

Range: Worldwide to ocean depths of 4,200 feet; highly migratory

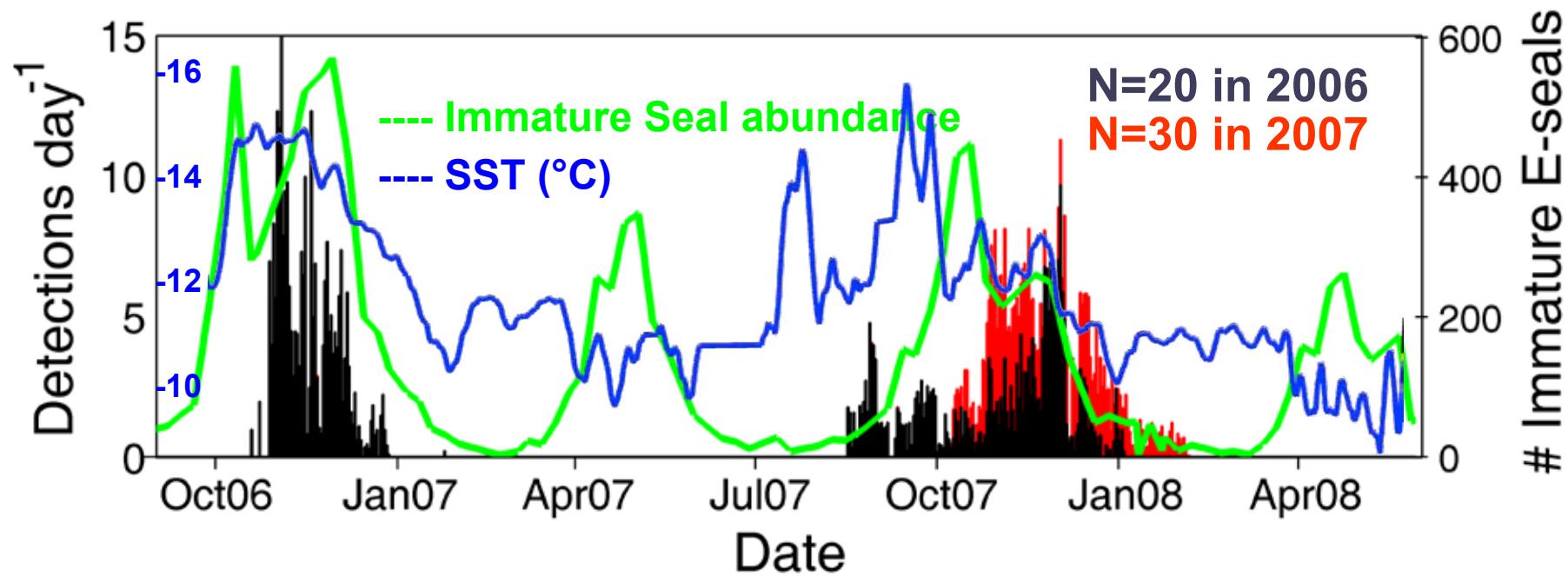
Diet: Seals, sea lions, fish, dolphins and turtles

Protection status: Endangered

# Predator / Prey Abundance at SEFI

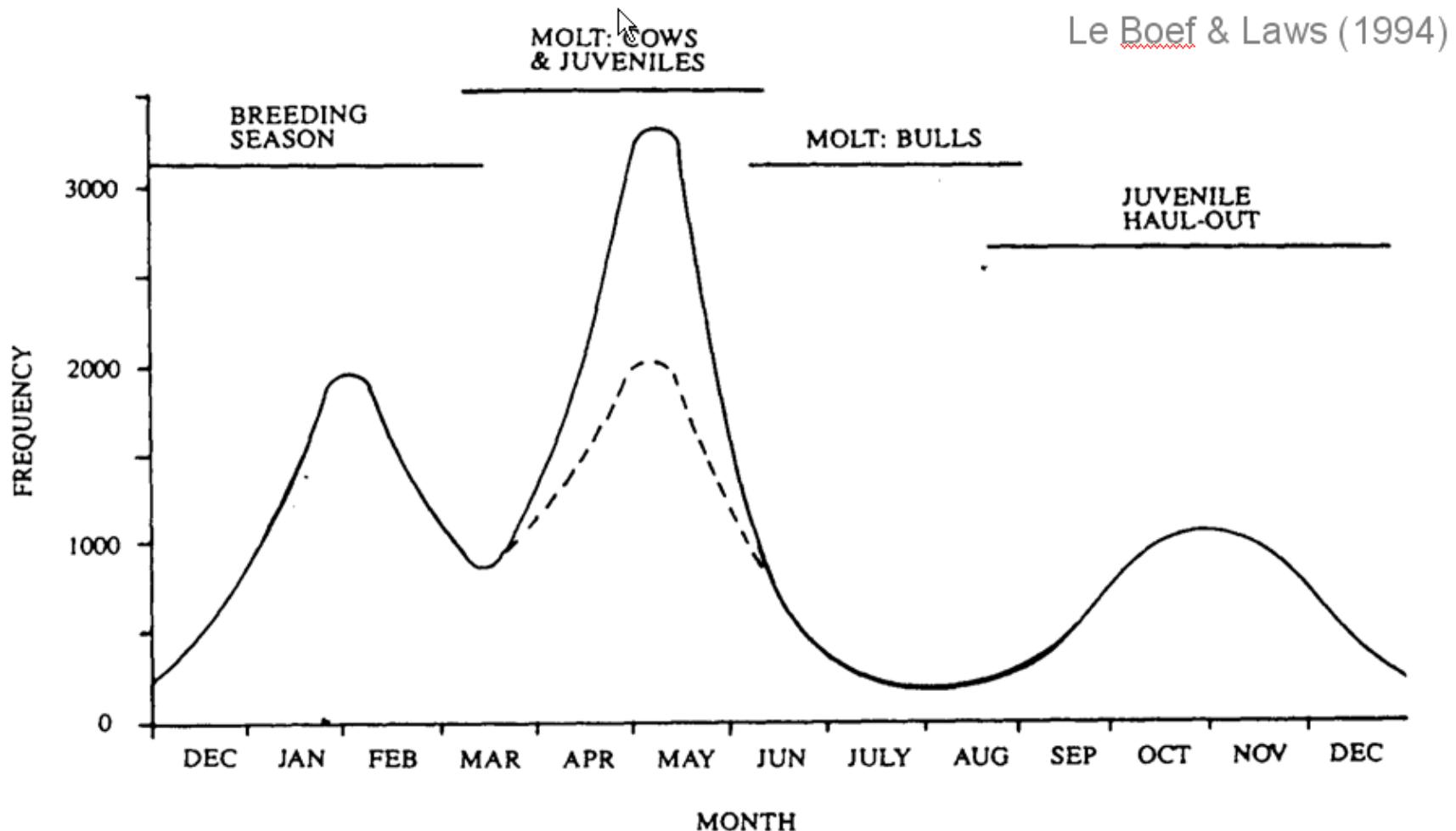


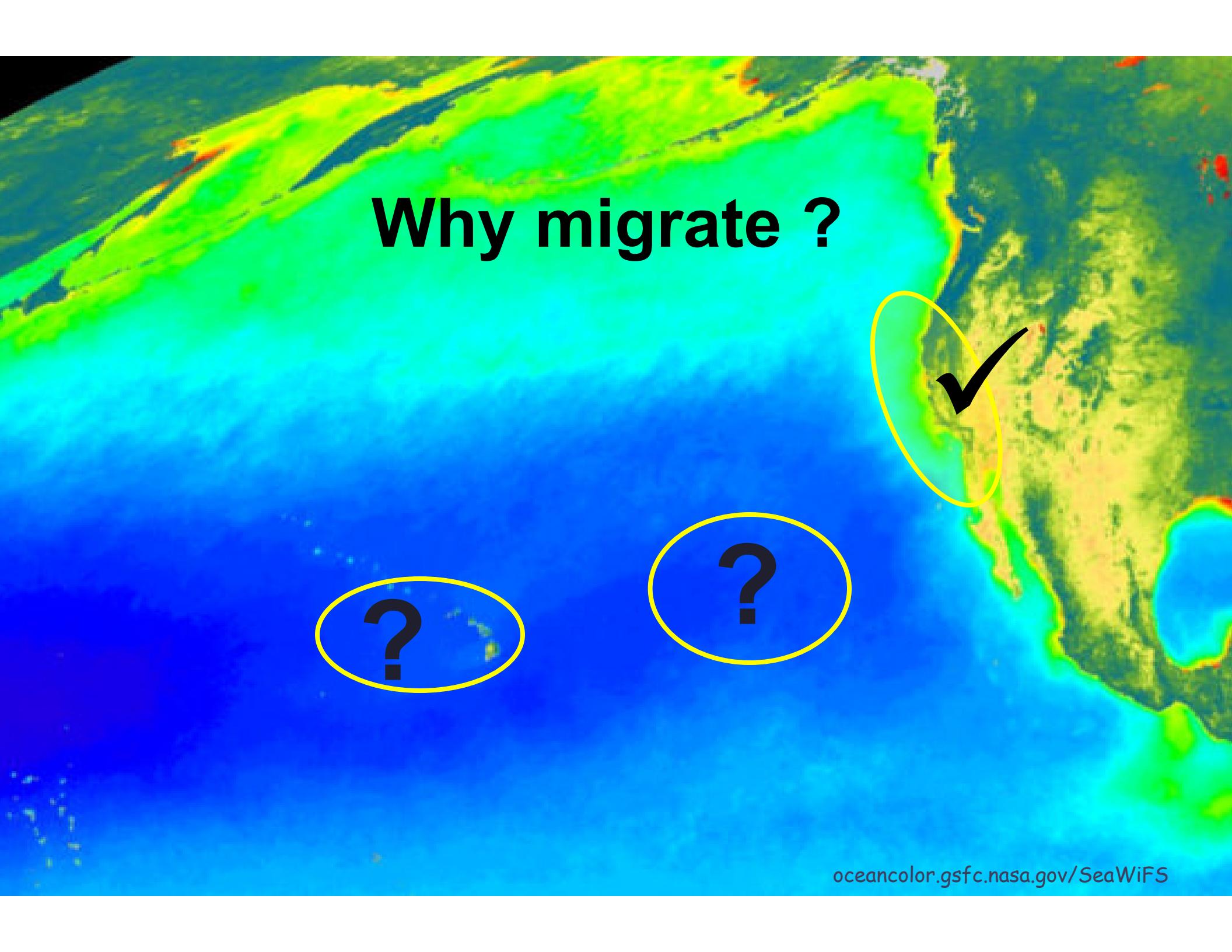
# White Sharks and Elephant Seals at SE Farallon Islands



- White sharks – endothermic (core temp.  $\sim 26^\circ \text{ C}$ )
- Trade-off ? Prey availability and cost of foraging in cold water

# Elephant seals at Año Nuevo





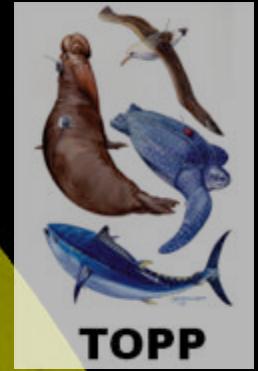
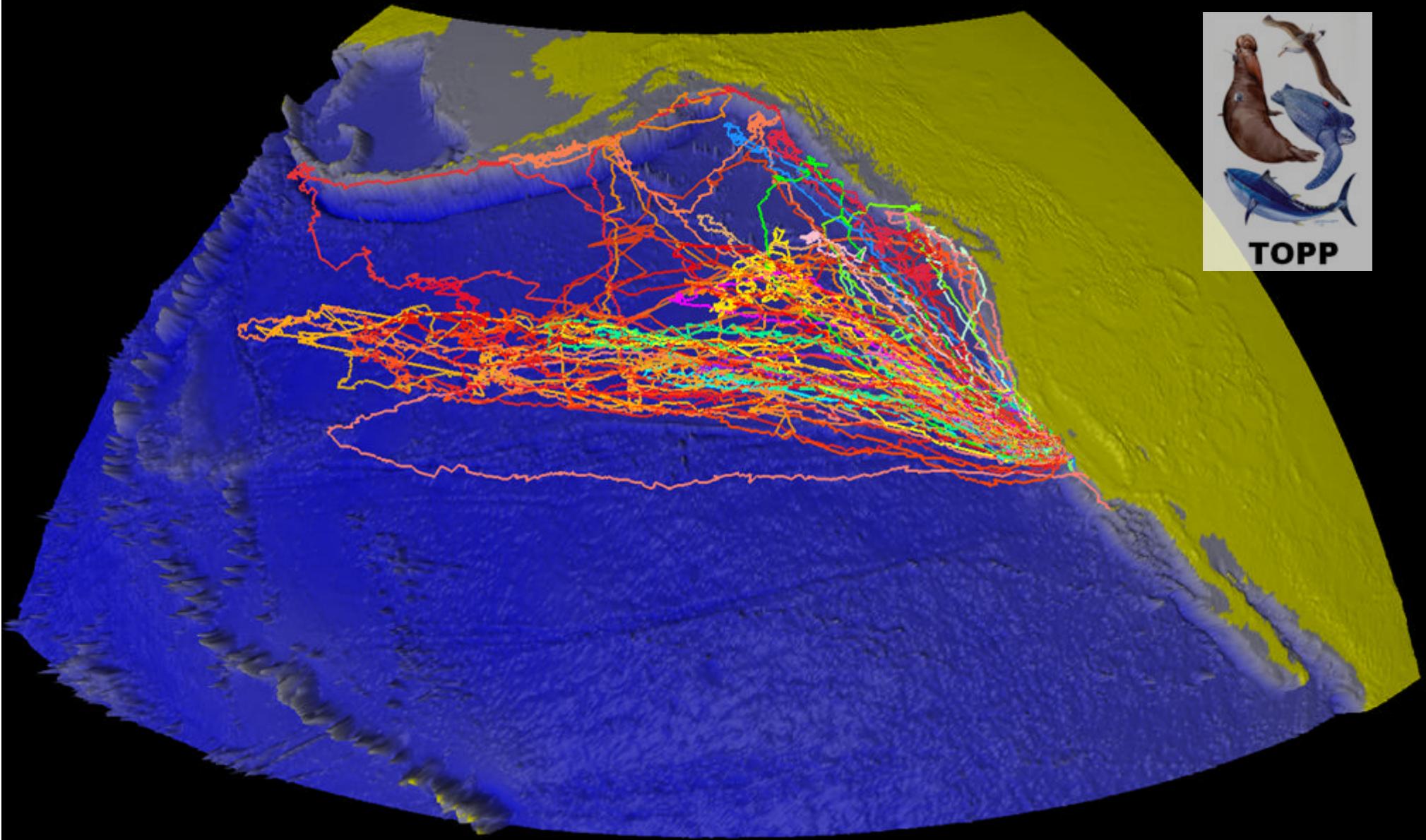
# Why migrate ?

?

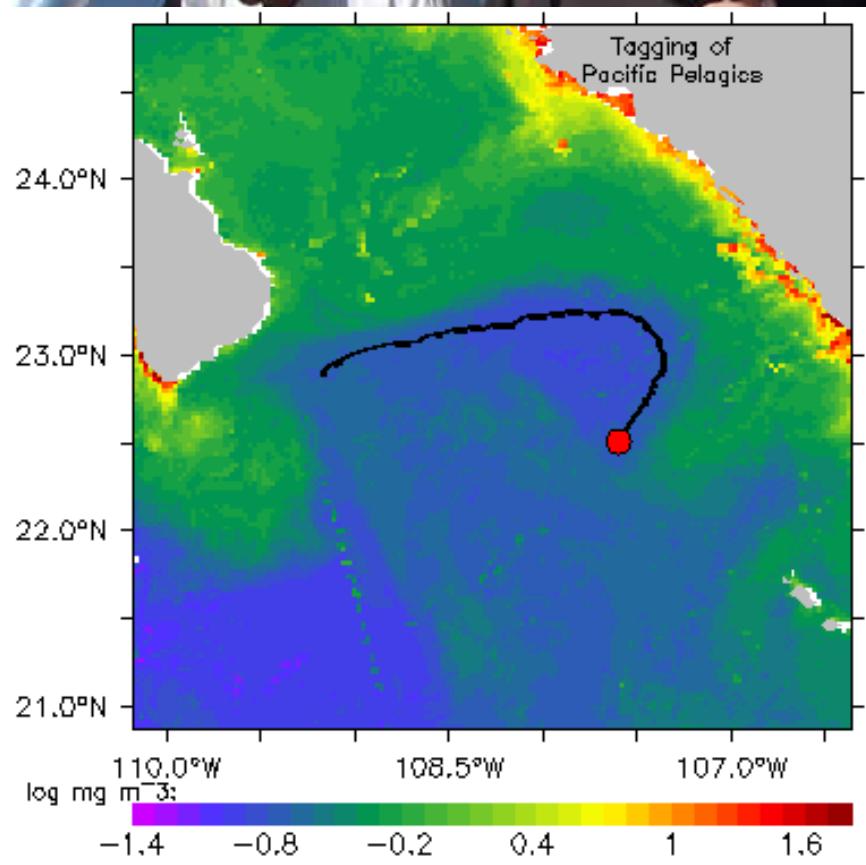
?

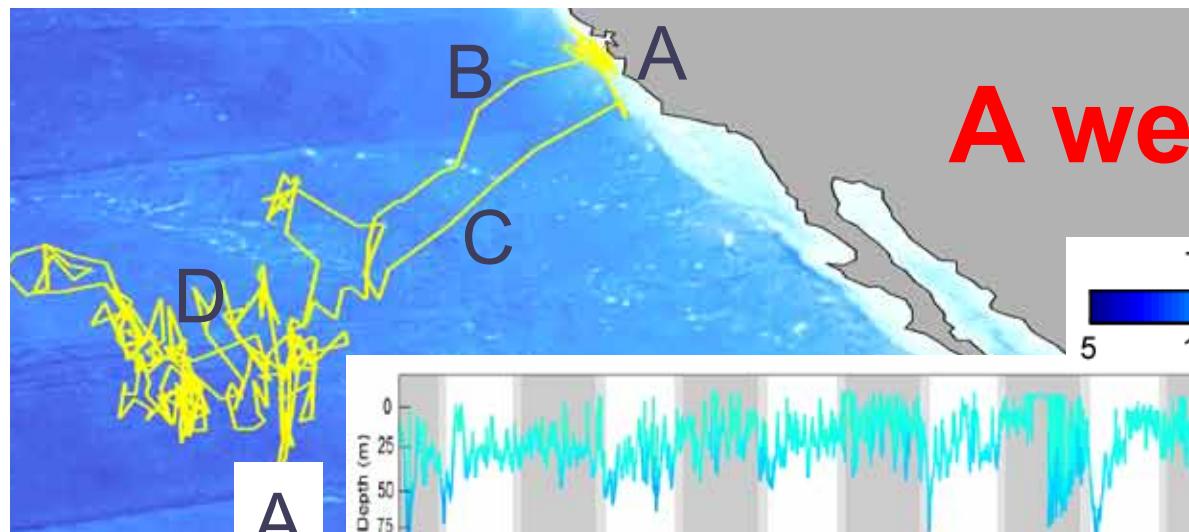


## Elephant seals



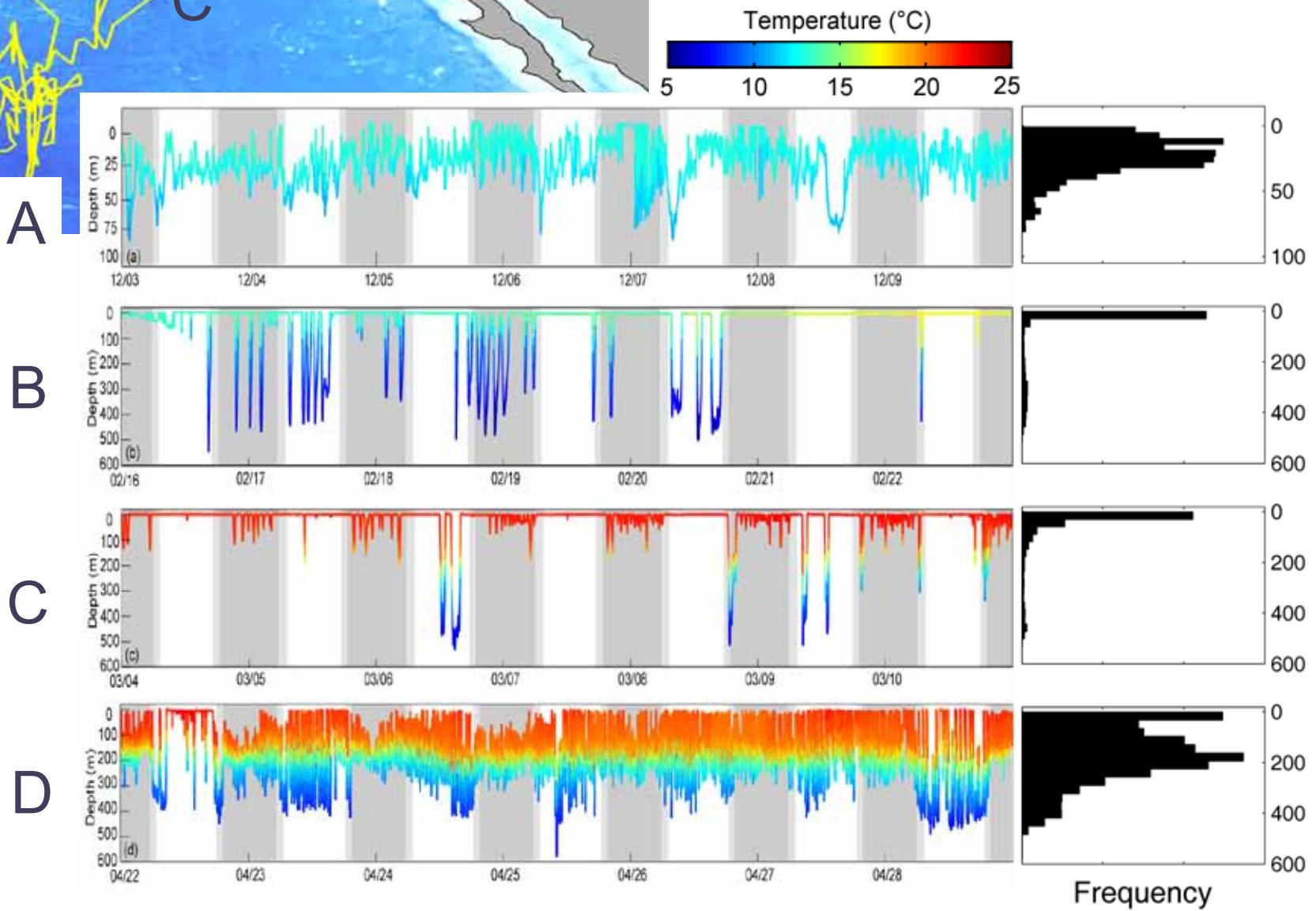
# Archival Tag Retrieval



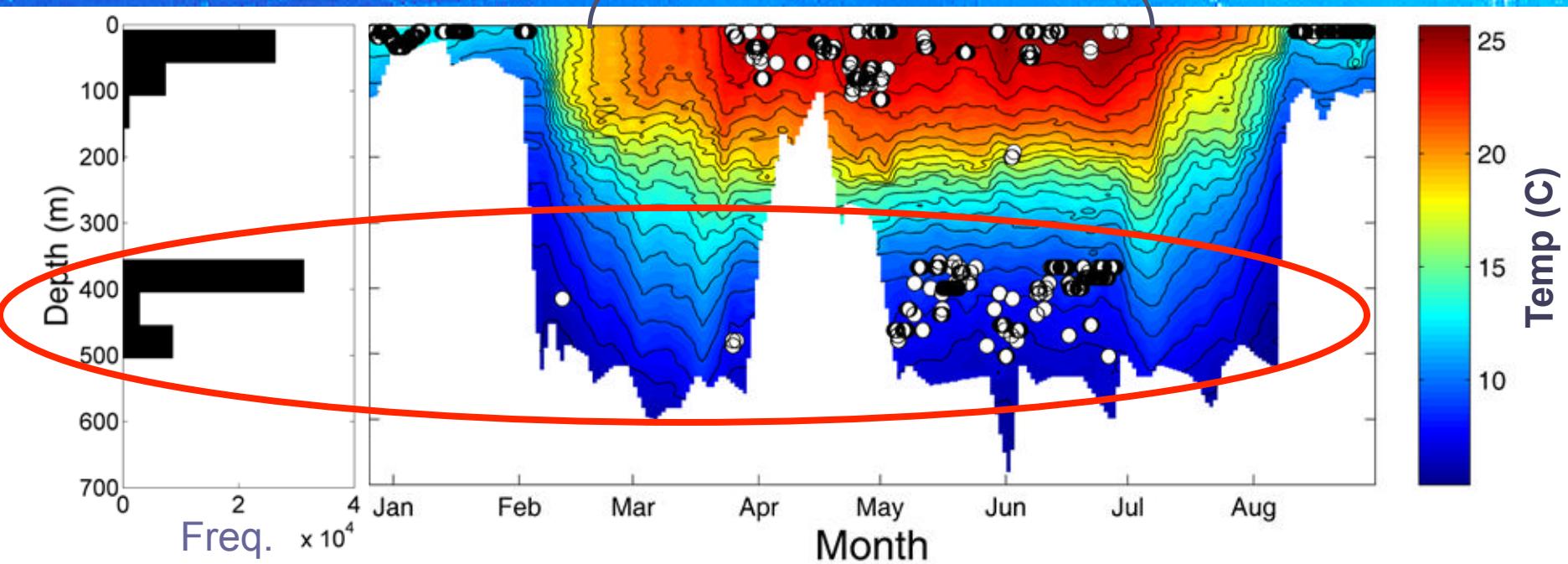
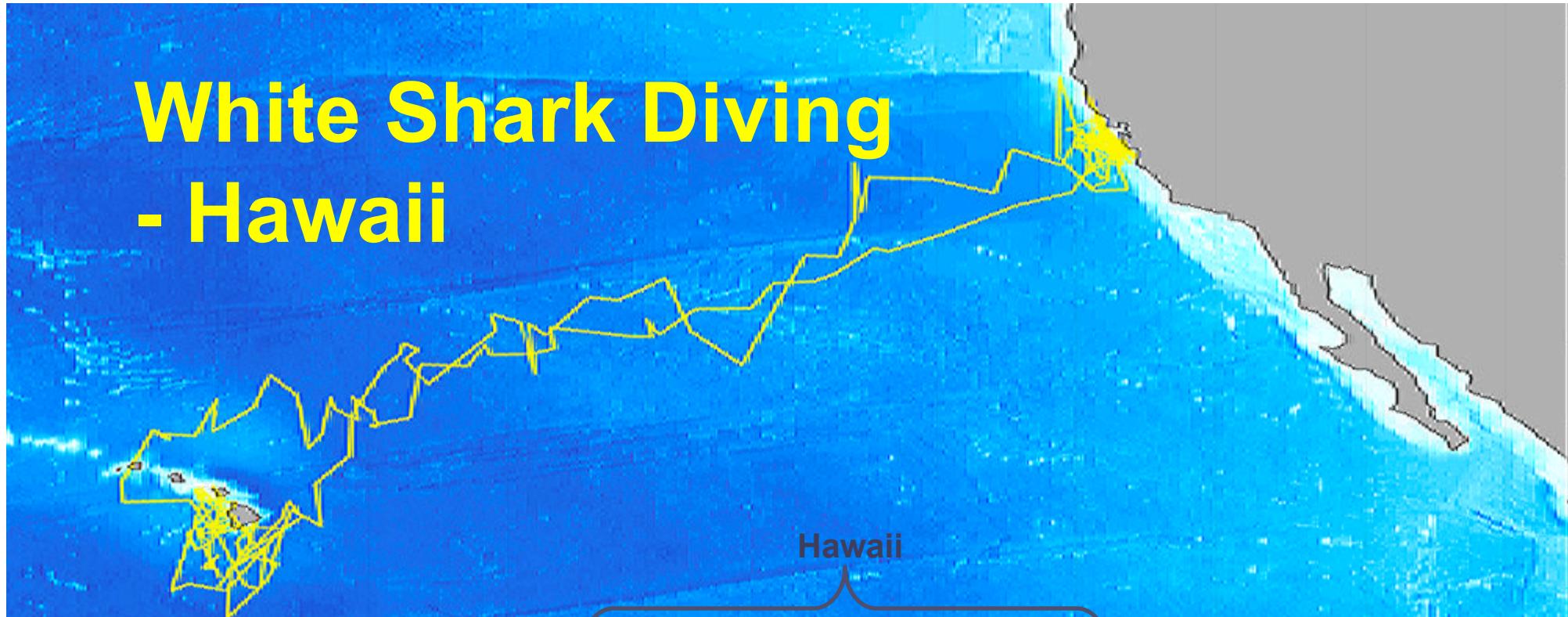


# A week in the life...

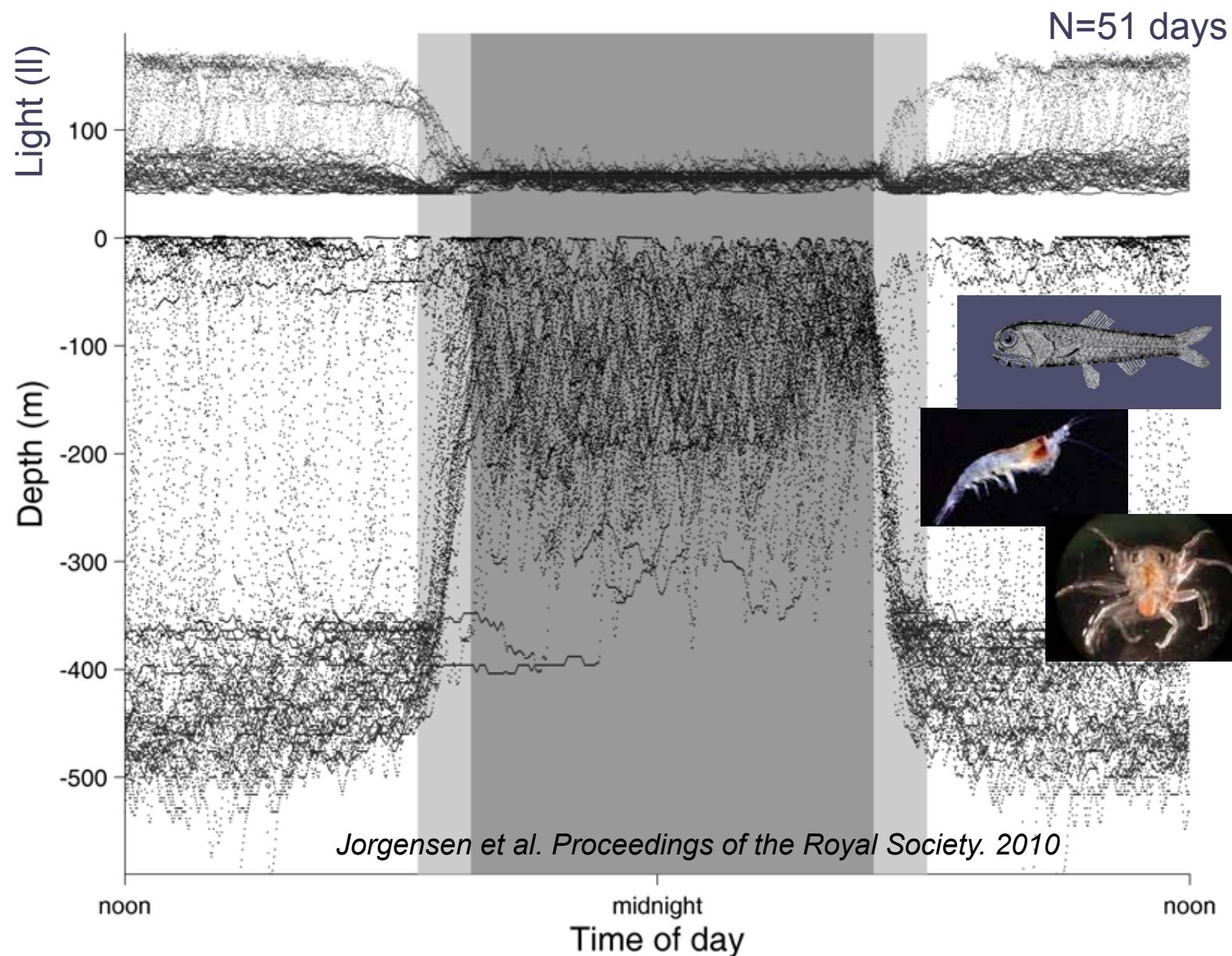
Weng et al. 2007



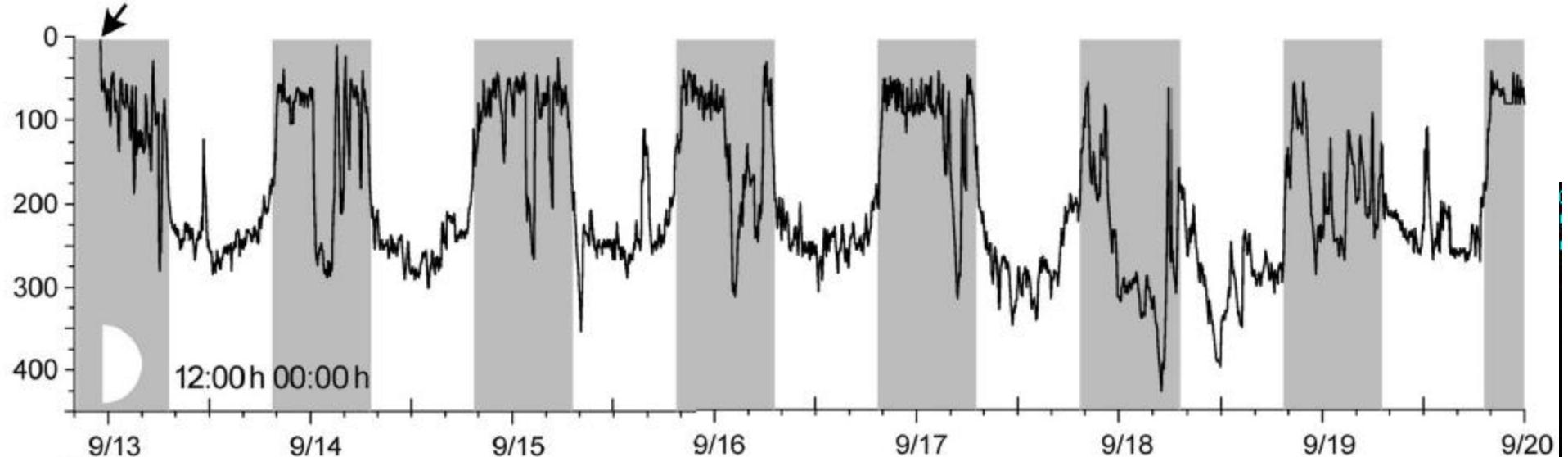
# White Shark Diving - Hawaii



# White Shark Diel (day/night) Vertical Migration



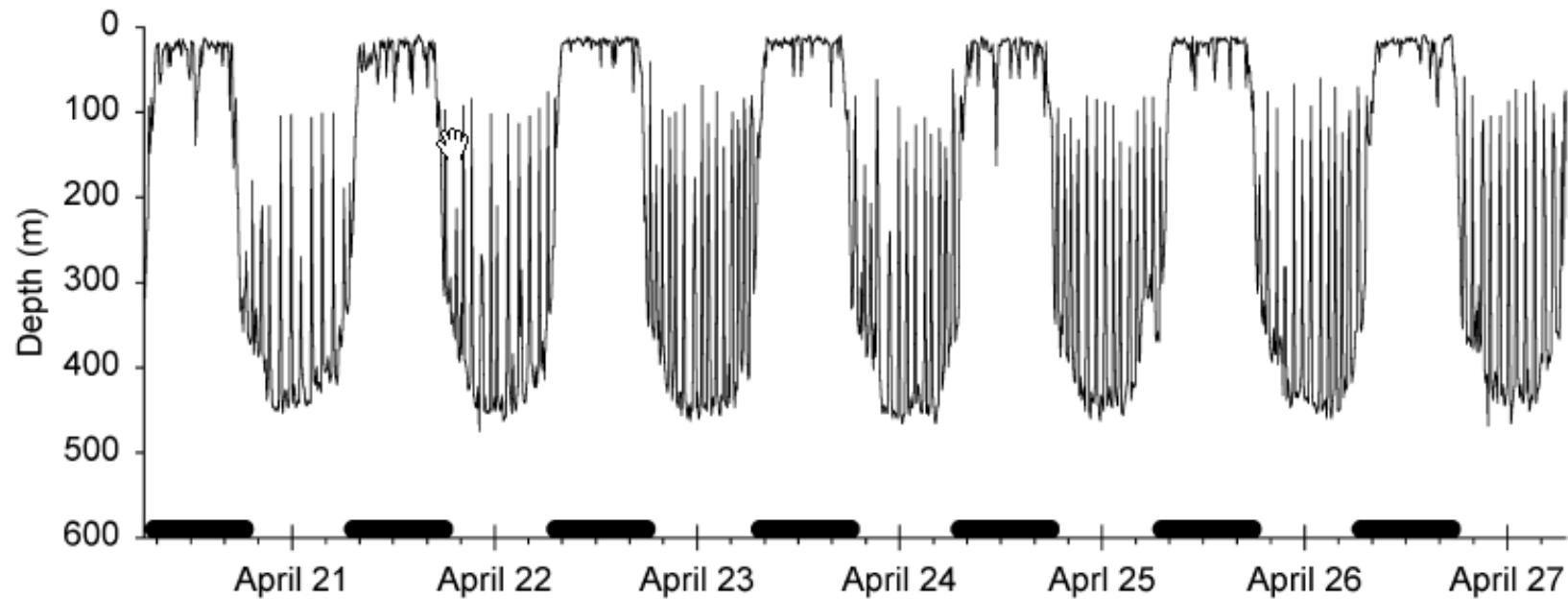
# Jumbo Squid Vertical Movement



Gilly et al., 2006

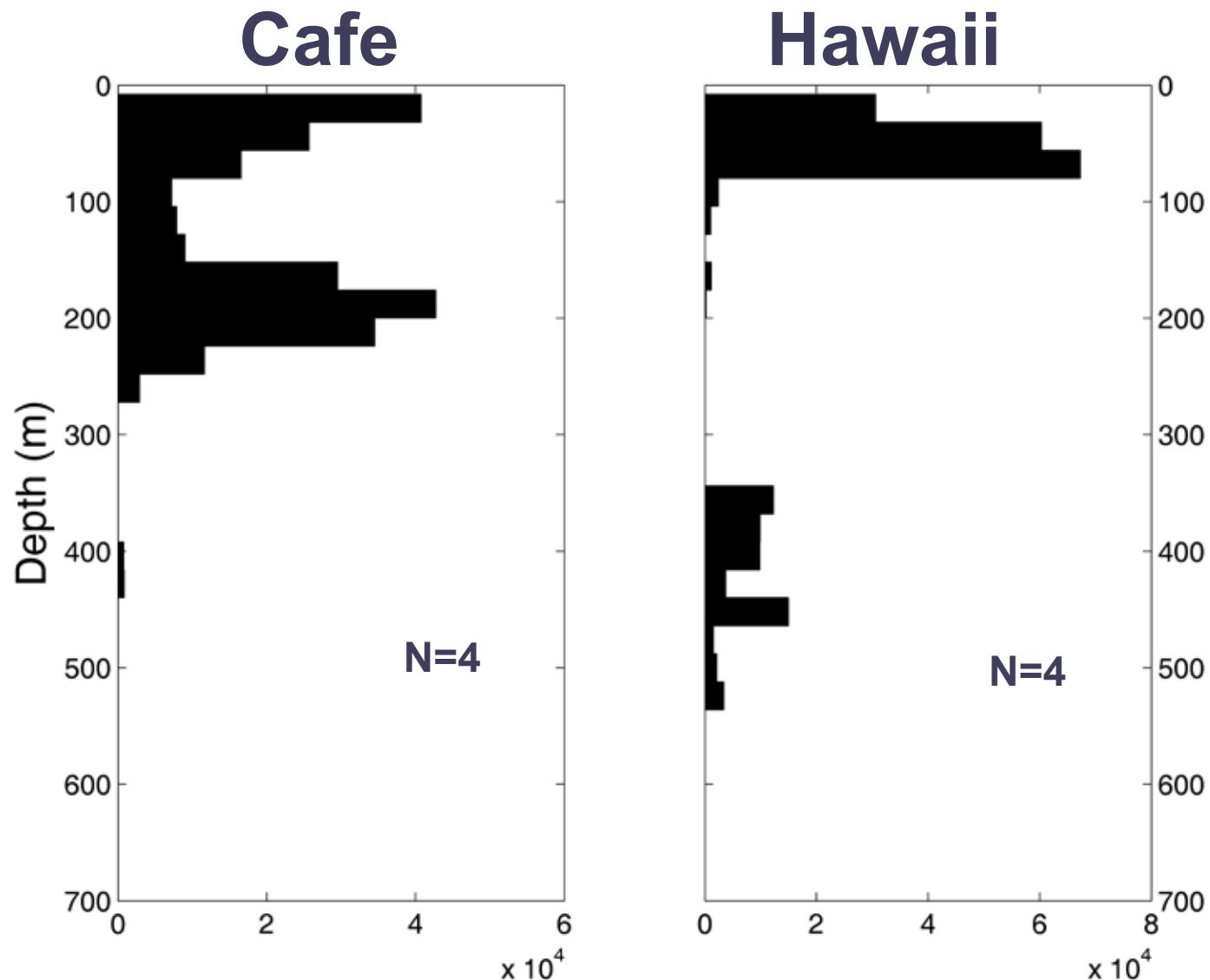


# Bigeye tuna diving near Hawaii

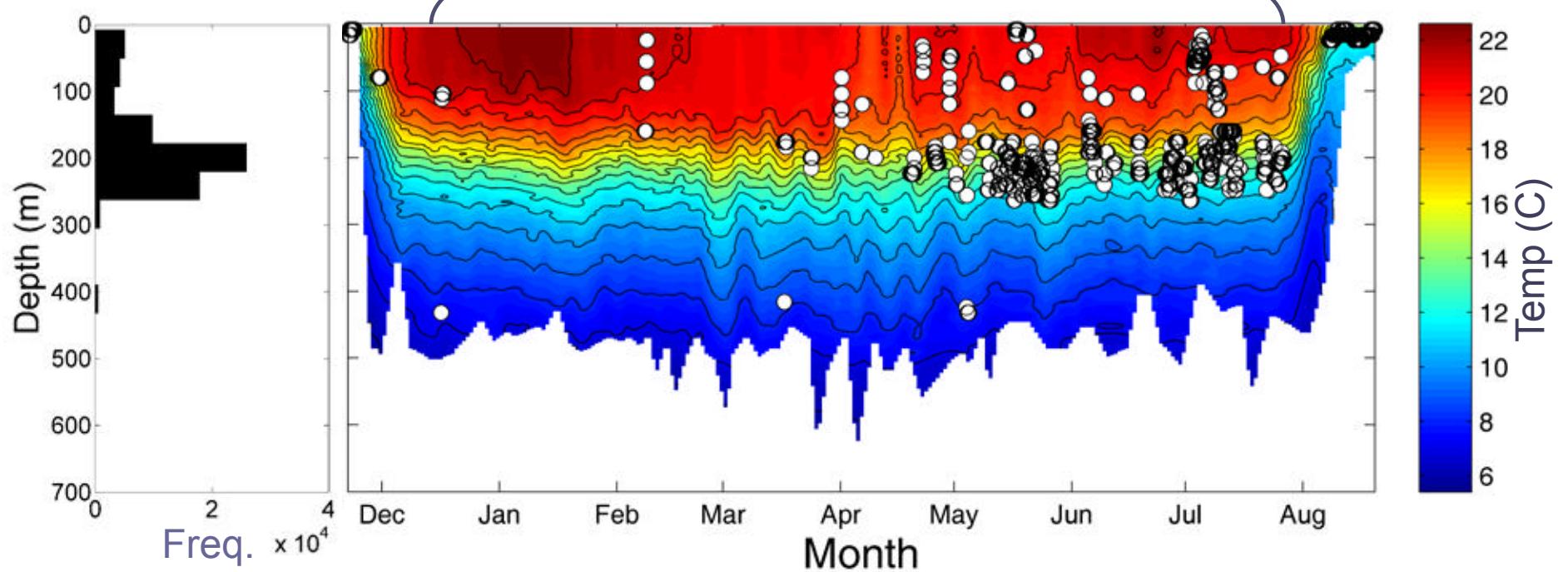
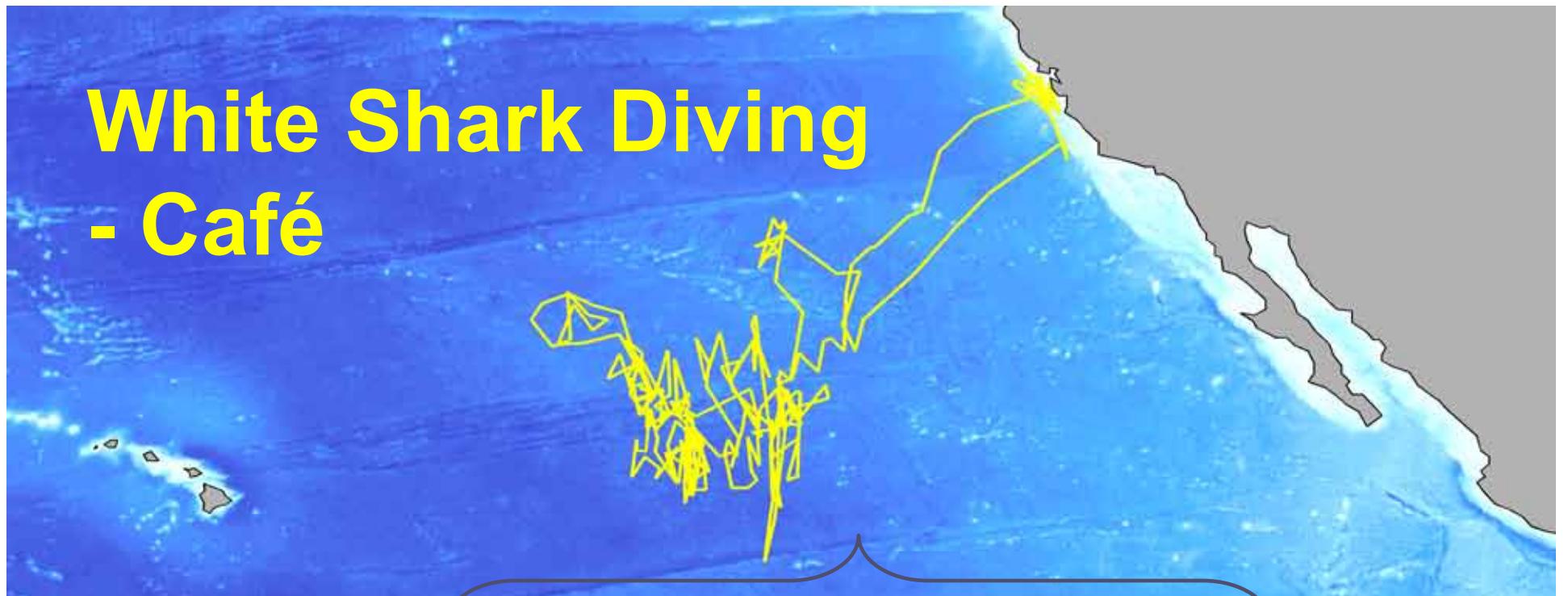


Musyl et al., 2003

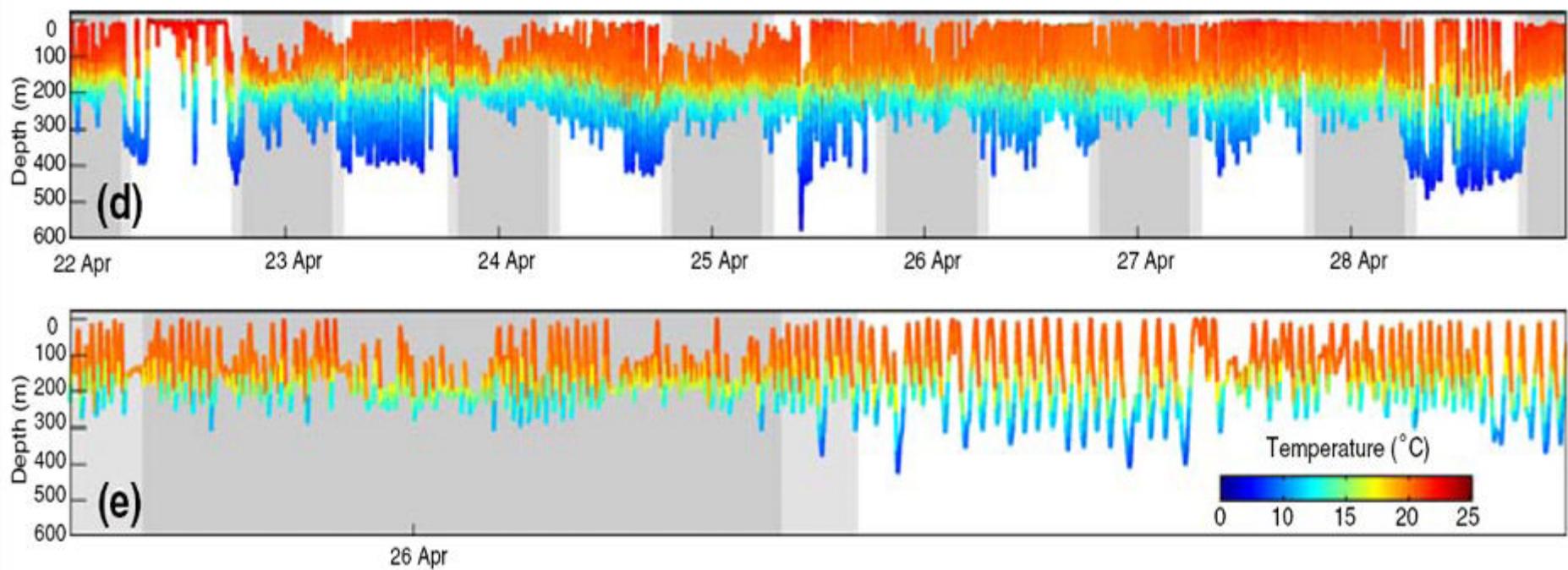
# Offshore Diving Modes



# White Shark Diving - Café

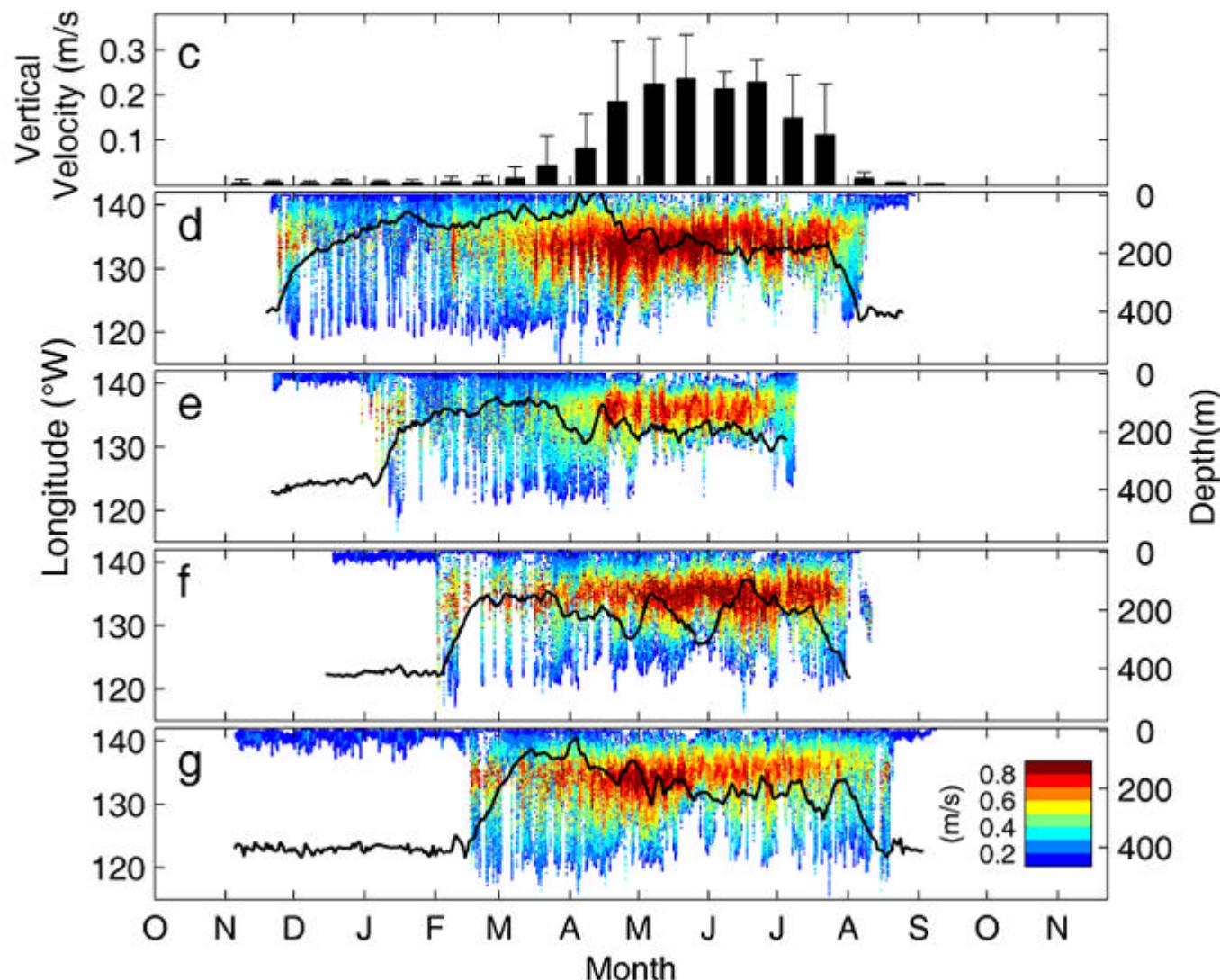


# White Shark Diving – Café



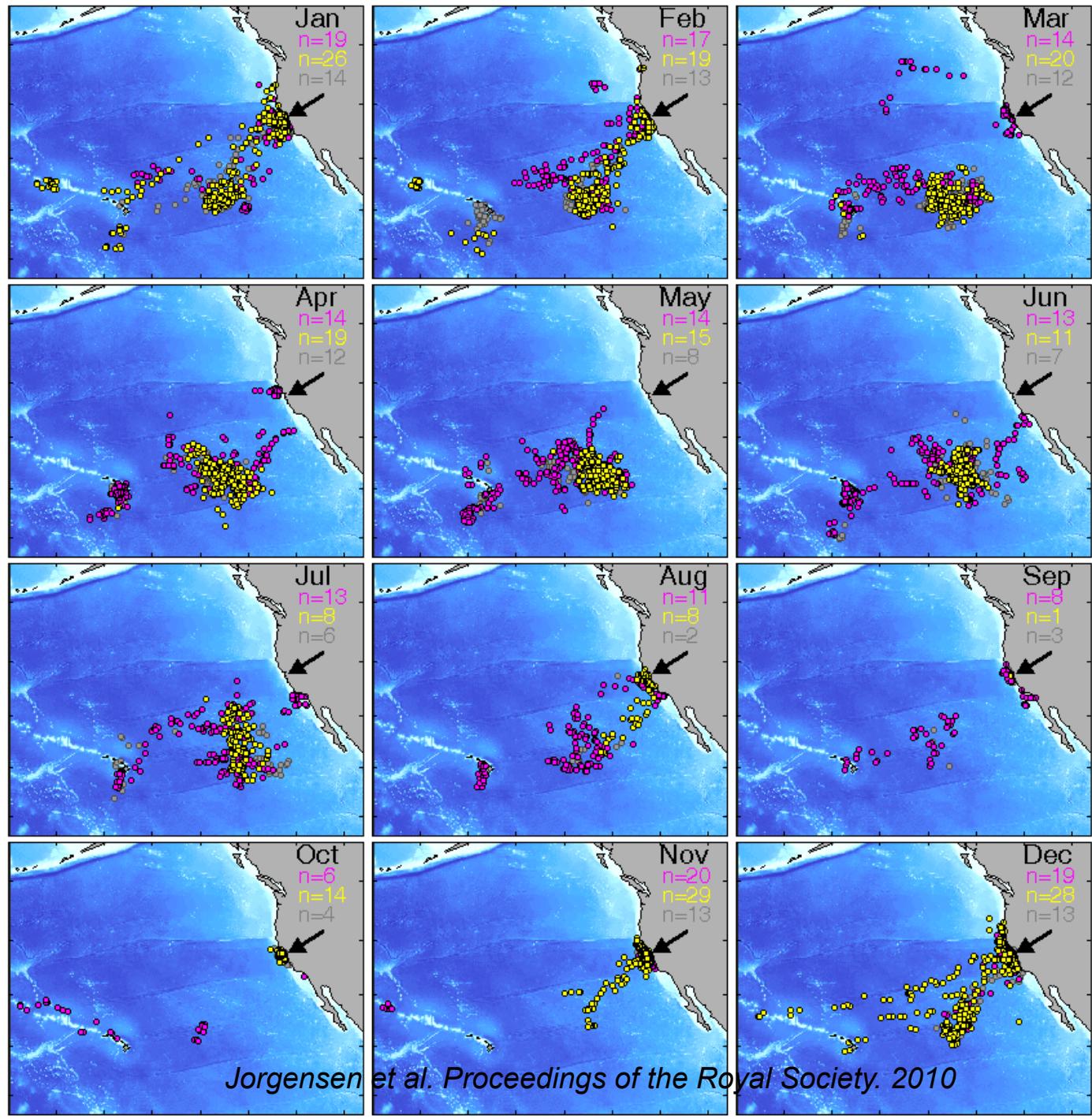
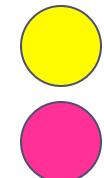
*Weng et al. Marine Biology 2007*

# Oscillatory diving – Café

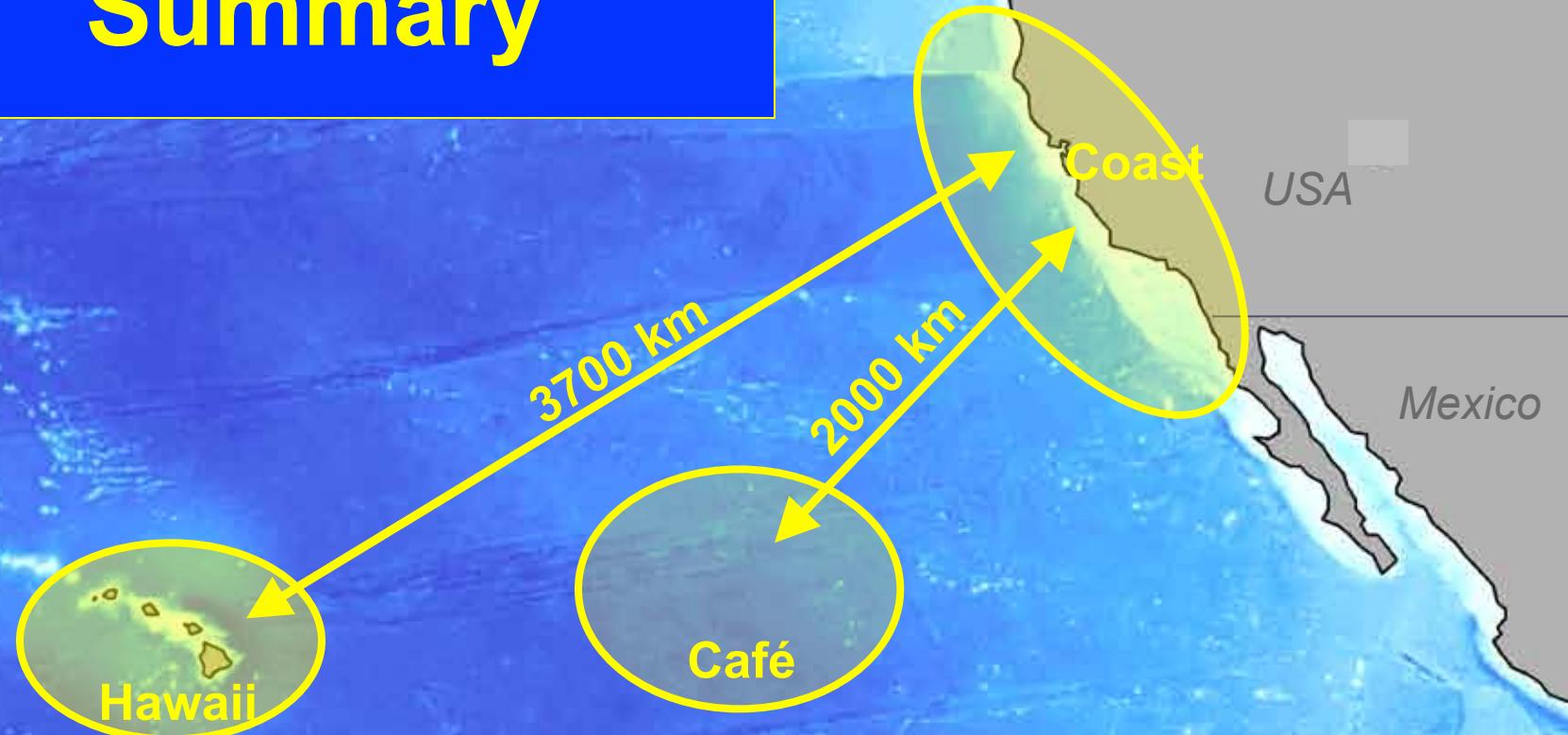


Jorgensen et al. *Proceedings of the Royal Society*. 2010

# Male Female

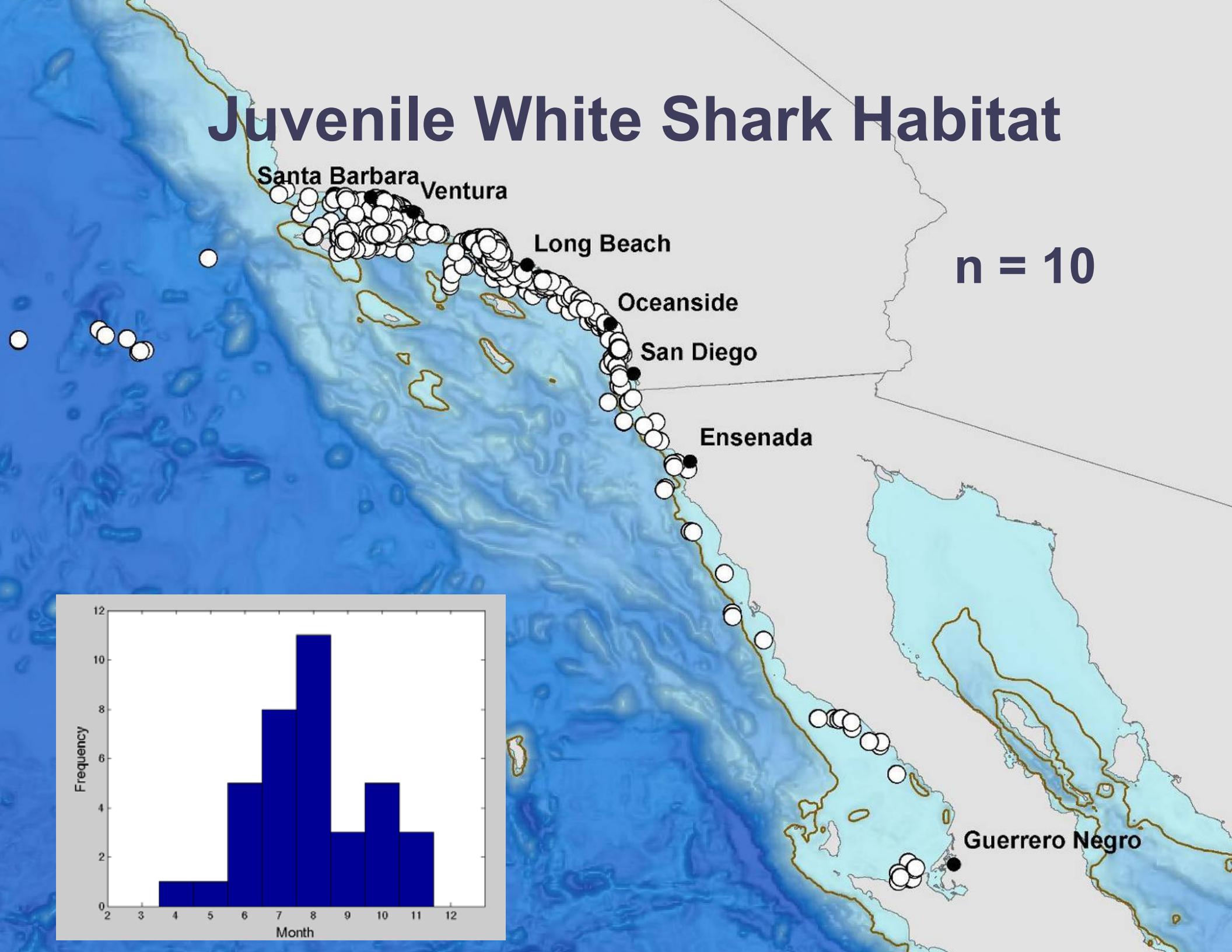


# Summary

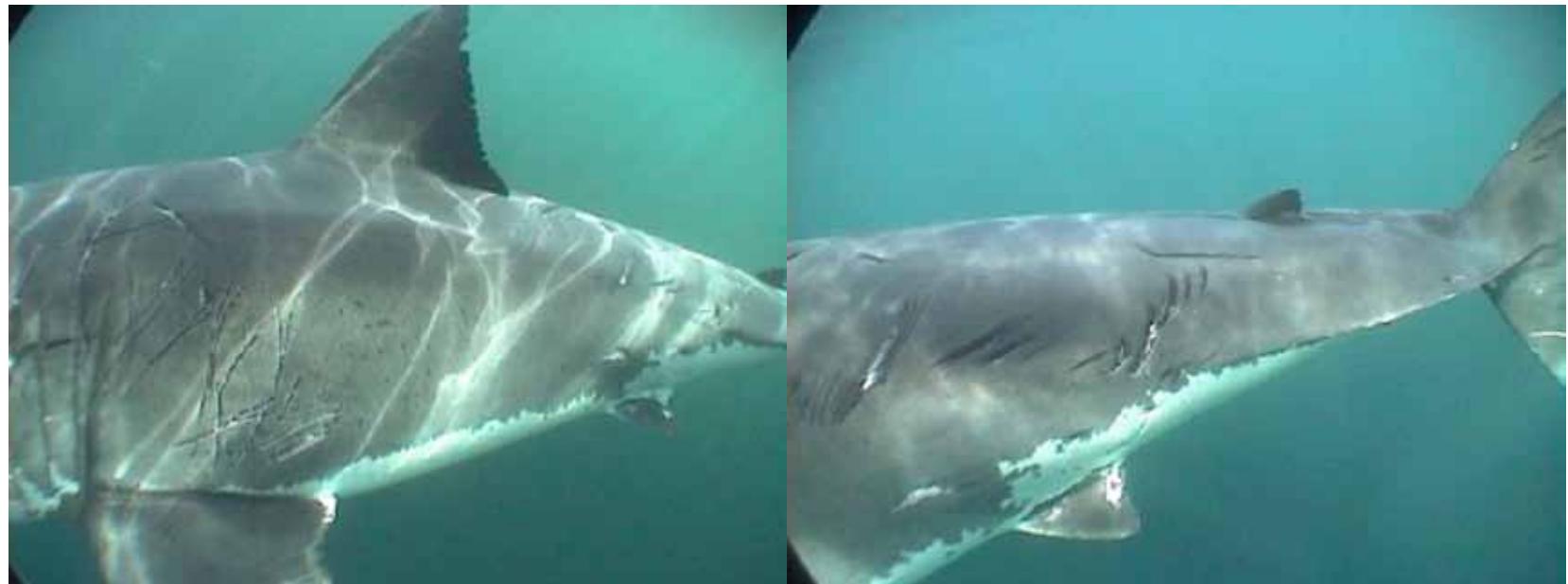


- Coast - temperature trade-off
- Hawaii - DSL foraging
- Café - foraging , mating or both

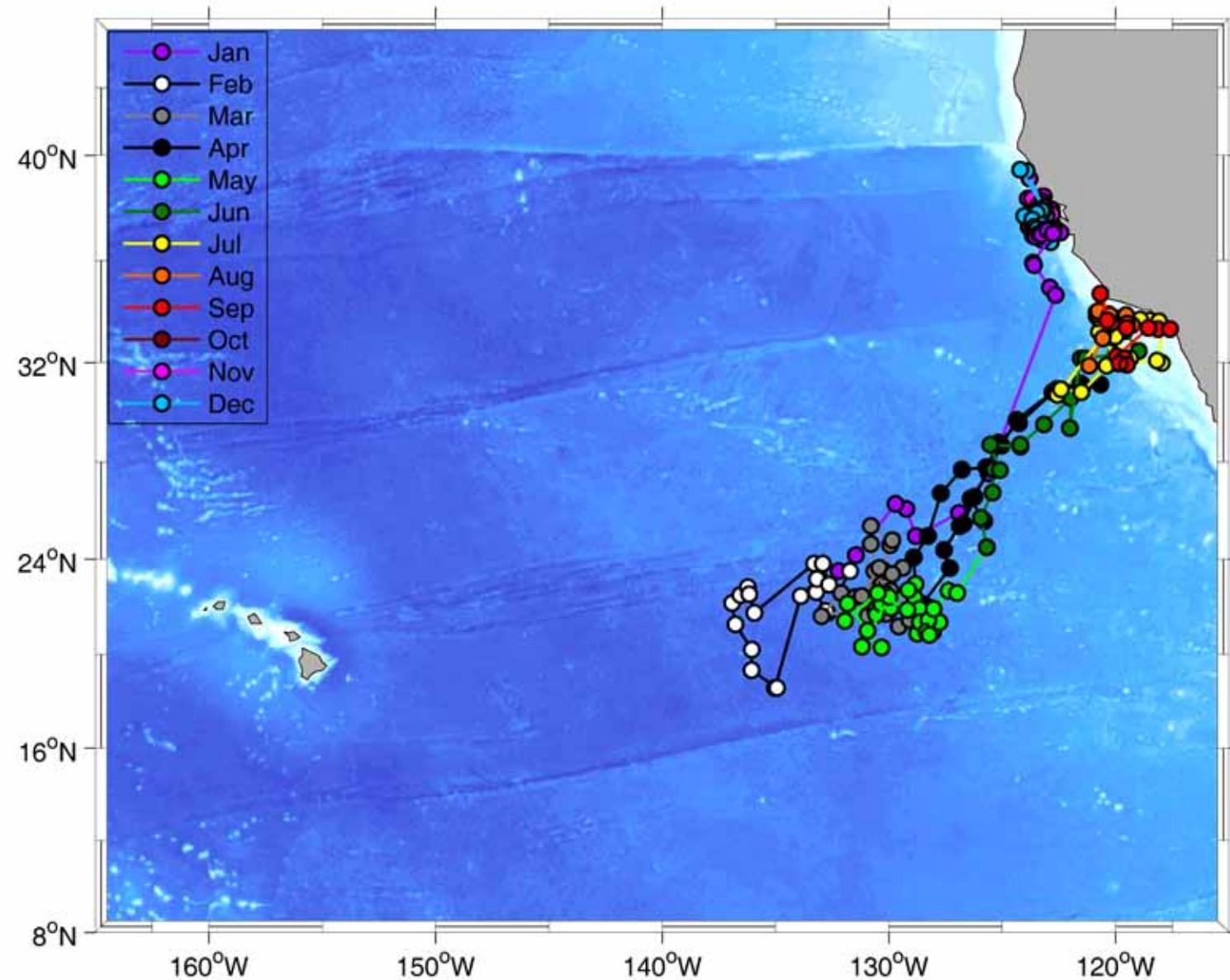
# Juvenile White Shark Habitat



## Female w/ healing mating marks PAT-tagged Oct 6

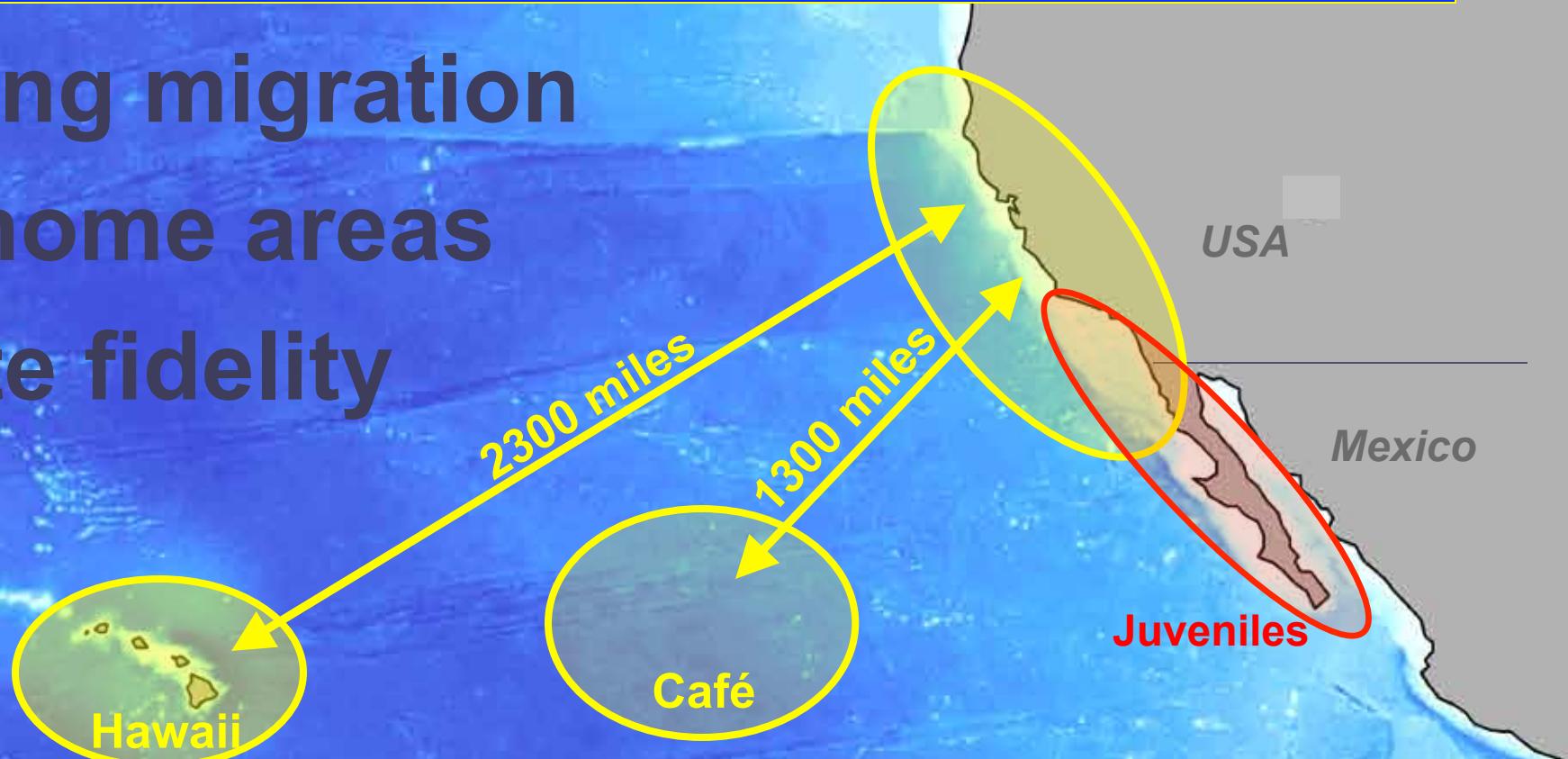


# Female tracked 362 days to SCB

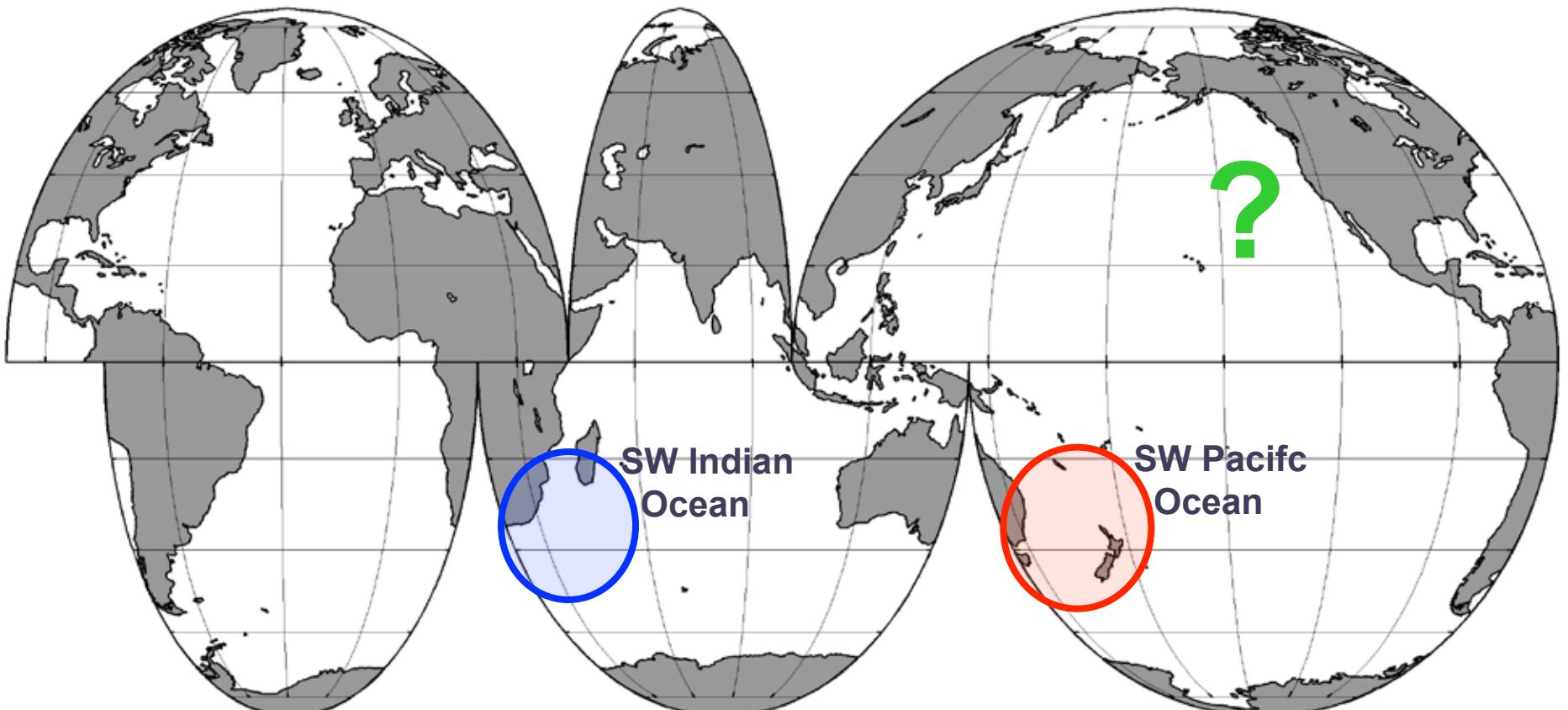


# White Shark Movement Synopsis

- Long migration
- 3 home areas
- Site fidelity

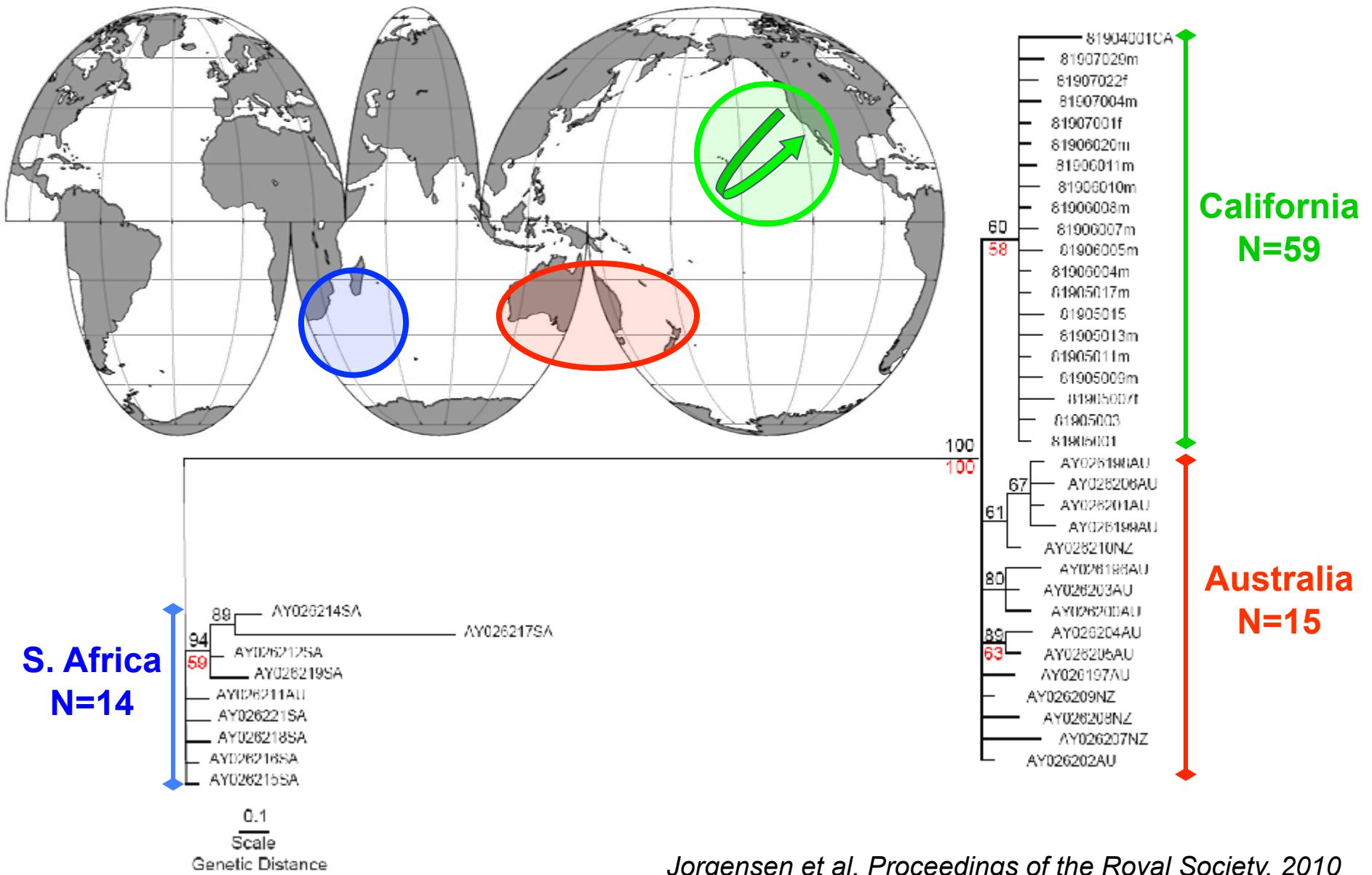


# White Shark Genetic Structure



2 white shark clades - Pardini et al., 2001

# White Shark Genetic Structure



# Conservation Implications

1. Limited dispersal and site fidelity
  - Easier to census population
  - Monitoring in National Marine Sanctuaries
2. Isolated population = more vulnerable
  - No immigration/emigration
  - Vulnerable if numbers are low

# Acknowledgements



## Special Thanks:

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Wisner, A. Swithenbank,  
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